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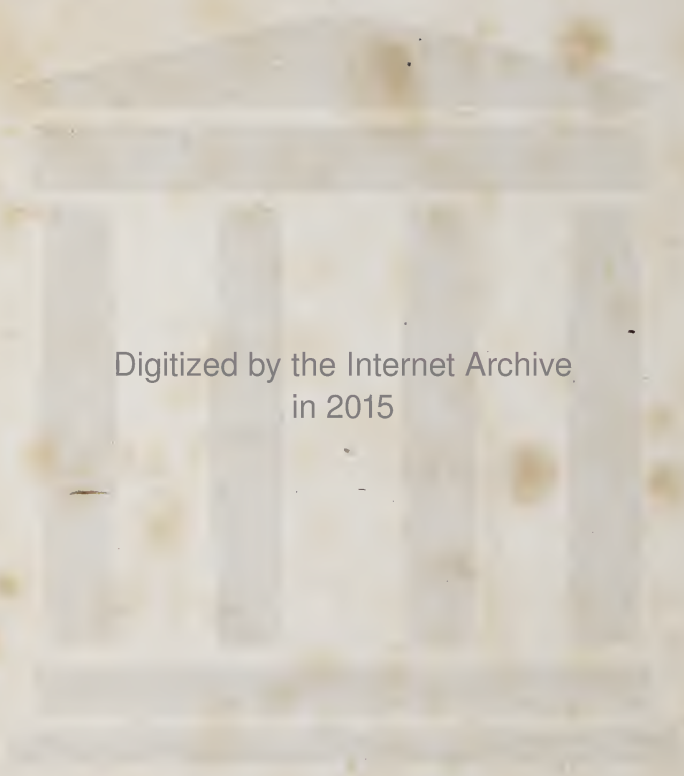
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Edmund Wheeler

CROYDON, N. H., 1866.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION,

ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1866.



A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE LEADING MEN

OF THE FIRST CENTURY,

With Portraits.



TOGETHER WITH

Historical and Statistical Sketches

OF THE TOWN.



BY EDMUND WHEELER.



Claremont, N. H.:

PRINTED BY THE CLAREMONT MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

1867.



P R E F A C E.

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It has been the purpose of the editor to gather up in this volume, the proceedings at the Croydon Centennial Celebration and embody them in a permanent form, for the benefit of all those interested in the town—but more especially the very many who were unable to be present—and for after generations.

So far as was within his reach he has endeavored in the Sketches here presented to give a brief account of all the leading men of the town during the first century. He has aimed to do equal justice to all, and if in any instance he has done less it was because the requisite information could not be obtained. And for the same reason, doubtless, many others equally worthy of honorable mention have been entirely omitted. He can only say he has done the best he could.

For many of the facts contained in the Historical portion of the volume, especially the earlier ones, he is under obligations to John Cooper, Esq., who has very kindly granted him a free use of his "Historical Sketch."

In relation to the Illustrations, he has endeavored to induce one at least of the descendants of each of the old, prominent families to represent his race personally to the next centennial through the medium of a lithograph. And his invitation to the one judged to be the representative man of the family to make the contribution has in most instances been very promptly and generously responded to. He would have liked more of the early fathers, but unable to procure them he has given the sons. It is believed that the very considerable expense attending them will be more than repaid by the additional interest they will impart to the work.

The editor would here express his obligations to the natives and residents of Croydon, for the general sympathy and lively interest manifested in the undertaking during its progress. May the result of his labors be the means of awakening a thousand pleasant memories.



CROYDON

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION,

June 13, 1866.

THE one hundredth anniversary of the settlement of Croydon was celebrated on Wednesday, June 13, 1866. It was a jubilee long to be remembered in the annals of the town. Invitations had been extended "to all the natives and former residents of the town to be present and mingle in the festivities of the day." At sunrise the booming of the cannon, planted on the very spot where stood the first dwelling, echoing and re-echoing among the hills, and the merry pealing of the bells announced that the day had dawned, summoned all to be in readiness, and awakened anew in a thousand hearts a long train of sweet, sad memories—joyous when they thought of home, the unbroken circle, the innocent sports of childhood, and a mother's love; but sad when they remembered how the destroyer had been there and the hearts that once made them so welcome are now still in death, and the loved forms are sleeping in the valley.

Long before the hour when the exercises were announced to commence, an immense throng, numbering fully three thousand persons, had assembled. At 10 o'clock the procession was formed under the direction of Capt. Nathan Hall, Chief Marshal of the day, and escorted by the Croydon Band, led by Baldwin Humphrey, marched to the stand.

Col. OTIS COOPER, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, on calling the assembly to order greeted them with the following welcome speech.

Mr. Cooper said :

Ladies and Gentlemen : In behalf of the citizens of Croydon I have the pleasure of bidding you all a most hearty welcome to your dear old native town. I most cordially welcome you all to these green fields, these beautiful valleys, these charming hills, and these grand old mountains. I welcome you to the churches where you once worshiped, the school-houses where you were taught, and those sacred inclosures where sleep the dear, honored dead. I welcome you to your dear old homes, and especially do I welcome you to this old family table, which has been so liberally provided for by the ladies.

What though the skies above us are overcast with clouds, all around us is sunshine, and warmth, and joy. Let us then enjoy the greeting, the hand-clasp, and the interchange of smiles. Again I welcome you all individually and collectively to all the innocent pleasures which this day is capable of affording.

Ladies and Gentlemen : I now have the pleasure of introducing to you the President of the day, the Hon. William P. Wheeler of Keene.

The President on taking the stand made the following remarks :

...and the lesson therein taught, remains to us and to our children. And this day will not be lost if our minds are refreshed, and stimulated to higher action in the future, by what is most noble and heroic in the past. The dead century is before us. Its history can not be changed. Let us listen reverently to its teachings. The living century is



THE PRESIDENT OF THE
remarks :

ADDRESS OF
HON. WILLIAM P. WHEELER OF KEENE.

Ladies and Gentlemen :

IT was a happy thought on the part of that portion of the household abiding here at home, to take note of the close of the first hundred years in our family history ; and to mark the transit from the old to the new century by a holiday at the old homestead. And it was especially kind and thoughtful of them to recall, on the occasion, those members of the Croydon family who from necessity or choice have been drawn to other fields of labor. That they have come with alacrity and in full force, is sufficiently evinced by what we here see. Some have come with increased households ; while others whom we would gladly have welcomed, have recently passed beyond the reach of an earthly summons. Yet while we grieve for those who for the present seem to be lost to us, we may mingle our congratulations ; and unite in commemorating what the first century has wrought for us.

We are here to-day upon a stand-point where three generations are to pass in review before us. Their work is finished, but the lesson therein taught, remains to us and to our children. And this day will not be lost if our minds are refreshed, and stimulated to higher action in the future, by what is most noble and heroic in the past. The dead century is before us. Its history can not be changed. Let us listen reverently to its teachings. The living century is

already beginning to unfold. Who will say that a recital of what was suffered and achieved by the early fathers and mothers, may not animate us with a spirit which shall leave its impress on another generation ? Let us to-day rekindle the fires of patriotism on the altar of our forefathers.

The wanderers have gathered at their native home to-day, because it was not in their hearts to resist the kindly summons. They are here to renew ancient friendships, to listen again to voices once familiar to them, and to look once more upon the face of nature as she greeted them in childhood. Here truly are the streams and lakes, the hills and valleys of our early days, unchanged by the lapse of time. And the grand old mountain, with its dark forests, still looks down upon us as of yore. Our country boasts of mountain peaks which attract pilgrims from distant lands, but I have seen none which can for a moment compare with the familiar one under whose shadow we now stand. There may be little to attract to it the eye of the stranger ; but every true son of Croydon can testify that "the sacred mountains" are those upon which the eye was accustomed to rest in childhood.

The strong love which involuntarily attaches one to the home of his youth may not be easy of analysis ; but it is a fact everywhere existing and recognized. It is but slightly dependent upon outward circumstances. The humble cottage in the forest, or upon the bleak mountain side, has attractions not surpassed by the lordly mansions of wealth and luxury. The place of one's birth is not less dear because it is humble : and the memory of it is not effaced by time or worldly cares. You may immerse one in business or pleasure until his time and all his waking thoughts are

wholly absorbed in the present. Nature is still true to herself. There will be moments in that life, if at no other time, in his slumbers, in the quiet hours of night, when the visions of childhood and of the early home will return. Again the brothers and sisters are with him. Again he mingles with his youthful playmates. He once more hears the voice of his sainted mother ; and he is again the gentle and confiding child, unspoiled by the follies and vices of after-life.

The query has sometimes arisen, what is it that entitles Croydon to the distinction which she has always claimed among her neighbors ? What has given her the position which is generally conceded to her ? Her territory is small, and her soil in the main unproductive. Her inhabitants are few in number ; and her mercantile and manufacturing interests are of small account. Her religious privileges have not been large, neither her schools numerous nor always of the highest order. Yet wherever you meet a Croydon boy, young or old, you meet one who is proud of his native town. I have met them in the crowded city, and far up among the sources of the great rivers of this continent ; yet in their new homes I found them the same indomitable, hard-working and well-balanced men as those who now cultivate these hills and valleys. What then is their true claim to distinction ? It is not that they are men of great genius or extraordinary acquirements. A few have overcome the difficulties in their way, and have obtained a liberal education ; while others with less school culture, have found positions of honor and usefulness abroad. But it is not to these alone, or mainly, that the town owes her position.

All the sources of her strength may not readily be comprehended or stated. But some of them are sufficiently obvious. In the first place all accounts agree that the first settlers here were men and women of great nerve and endurance ; and many of them of unusual size and physical strength. They found here a soil and climate which called forth their best energies. They breathed a pure and invigorating air. The breezes—not always warm or mild—which swept the White or Green Mountains and came pouring over the rugged sides of our great mountain barrier, brought with them health and mental soundness.

Thus from a noble ancestry, early accustomed to struggle with Nature in her sterner moods, and to take an active part in public affairs in the stirring times in which they lived, a race of men has been trained and developed who still uphold the honor and dignity of their native town. As we have seen them in the present generation, they have appeared to be men, not perhaps in all cases over-devotional or religious, but self-reliant and ready for work ; men of integrity who could compete successfully with their neighbors or rivals in whatever business or profession they were engaged. Many of them still retain the stalwart forms of their ancestors. The original types of the Bartons, Coopers, Halls, Humphreys, Powers, Putnams, Whipples, and their compeers of a century ago, have not wholly disappeared. And it is to be hoped that those who assemble here at the close of another century may find among them the physical and mental peculiarities of those who began their work here in 1766.

As a township Croydon has, from the beginning, been outstripped by her more prosperous neighbors. To say nothing

of other flourishing towns about us, Claremont and Newport, with their water-power and broad acres of interval, have grown in wealth and population until they may look upon this little community as a humble tributary to the stream of their prosperity. But Croydon points to her sons and daughters—not supposed to be numerous until to-day—as the tower of her strength; and claims equality of rank.

We hope on this occasion to hear something of the history of the founders of this town; and of the later generations who have borne an honorable part in all our great struggles. In the war of the revolution Croydon sent her full share of men of strong arms and resolute wills, to battle for independence. The sacrifices which were made to achieve what we have so recently been called upon to defend—our national unity and independence—never seemed greater to me than when, as a boy, I listened to the recitals of my venerable grandfather, Nathaniel Wheeler, senior, of the toils and privations endured by him and his companions in arms, and their families, during the dark days of the revolution. Truly, there was no lack of patriotism on the part of the man who could, at the call of his country, march to the field of battle, while he left behind him in the wilderness his wife and infant children, dependent upon the good will of the neighbors to scare the wild beasts from the cabin door, and to cultivate the patch of cleared ground which was to furnish the scanty supply of bread for hungry mouths. Yet we have the concurrent testimony of many, that such instances were not rare in the early history of this town.

In the second war with Great Britain Croydon sustained her part nobly; and I count it a thing to be proud of, that

when a call was made upon the town for soldiers, the proceedings commenced for a draft were at once set aside by the voluntary enlistment of its citizens ; and that the first man to offer himself as a private soldier for the service, was Nathaniel Wheeler, jr., then holding a high commission in the State militia. And in the terrible ordeal through which our beloved country has just passed, and from which she is rising, purified, we trust, as by fire, it was not inappropriate that a later descendant of the same family should surrender up his life, far from kindred and home, at the call of his country. But the history of one family is the history of many ; and I would not give an undue prominence to the services of one, while so many family records have been illuminated by the noble deeds of more than one generation. Let us, at the risk of being egotistic, tell what we know of our fathers that is worthy of record ; what we are doing or striving for ourselves, and what we hope of our children. Then will this be a day long to be remembered by the sons and daughters of Croydon.

A very able and appropriate prayer was then offered by Rev. Luther J. Fletcher of Maine.

The following Greeting Hymn, written for the occasion by Lizzie P. Harding of Croydon, was sung by the Glee Club, led by Capt. E. Darwin Comings :

GREETING HYMN.

We welcome thee! we welcome thee
 Who long from us have strayed,
 With joy we grasp the hand where oft
 In childhood thou hast played.

Our granite hills unchanged shall stand,
 Though distant ye may roam ;
 Like them our hearts remain as true,
 And kindly greet thee home.

But there are voices, hushed in death,
 Whose tones in other years
 Rang out with friendship's sweetest notes
 Upon our ravished ears.

Behold them! bending from the skies
 To watch thy coming feet,
 List'ning to catch our song of joy,
 With memory's incense sweet.

Great God! guide thou our wandering steps,
 To reach that blissful shore,
 Where loved ones wait, with star-gemmed crowns,
 To greet us evermore.

Then welcome, welcome dearest friends,
 Who from us long have strayed,
 With joy we clasp thy hand where oft
 In childhood thou hast played.

THE PRESIDENT.—I am not unmindful of the one great attraction which has brought you here to-day. You have come to listen to one who is everywhere heard with pleasure and nowhere with more pride and satisfaction than here in his native town ; whose presence always calls forth love and admiration, and whose eloquent words and blameless life have exerted an influence which has been felt in a circle wider than has been reached by any other son of Croydon. The Rev. BARON STOW, of Boston, who will now address you, needs no introduction to this audience.

ORATION

BY BARON STOW, D. D., OF BOSTON.*

Hugh Miller of Scotland, says, "The mind of every man has its picture-gallery—scenes of beauty, or magnificence, or quiet comfort stamped upon his memory." And he might have added, that often a very small thing, or a very trivial incident, will serve as a key to open that gallery, and let in the light of day upon long darkened reminiscences.

Seven years ago about this time, I was in the heart of Europe, in Munich, the capital of the kingdom of Bavaria. One bright, cloudless afternoon, wearied with sight-seeing, I walked into the country, partly for physical refreshment, and partly that I might turn away from the works of human art, splendid and beautiful as they were, and contemplate the richer beauties and glories of Nature. The air was balmy and charged with perfume from fields and gardens in full bloom. When far enough away, I ascended a knoll and turned to view the landscape. It was one of the loveliest. Away at my right, on the slope of a ridge, was the famous national monument, the colossal statue of Bavaria, towering with its pedestal one hundred feet from the ground. Towards my left was the city, the gem of continental Europe. In front along the south loomed up the serrated range of the Tyrolese Alps, snow-clad, and glittering in the sunlight like burnished silver. The whole scene was one of blended beauty and grandeur. There was

*Owing to the rain that greatly incommoded the larger part of the audience, considerable portions of the Address, as now published, were necessarily omitted in the delivery.



J. H. Russell & Co. Lith. Boston.

Baron Stow.

much to remind me of God, and awaken feelings of adoration.

But soon a very small object changed, suddenly and completely, the current of thought, and set it running in a new direction. Seated on the turf, I noticed at my feet a flower which I had familiarly known, in my early childhood, as "yellow weed" or "butter cup." I remembered when the fields of my native town, in the month of June, were golden with its bloom, and how the farmers classed it with the "hard-hack" and the "Canada thistle," as a nuisance not easily abated. I had learned to regard it as a pest, but there, in the outskirts of Munich, I did not dislike it ; I hailed it as an old acquaintance ; my heart sprang towards it ; I read "Croydon" on its every petal ; it was suggestive of a hundred fold more than I can now tell. In *space*, I was instantly transported nearly five thousand miles westward to my New Hampshire home, five degrees more southward than Munich, yet colder in climate and more rugged in scenery. In *time*, I was taken back nearly sixty years, and looking at things as they were when Thomas Jefferson was President of the United States, and our Government was quarreling, diplomatically, with England about Orders in Council, embargoes, and non-intercourse laws ; and when Napoleon I. at the zenith of his power, had the sympathy of all in our country who wished to see the British Lion humbled ; and when party spirit in New Hampshire, Croydon not excepted, was at fever heat. How vivid, how minute, were my recollections all revived by the suggestiveness of that little, unpretentious flower ! I stood, once more a boy of seven years, in that semicircle of high hills, sweeping round from north-east to south-west, with slopes

partly wooded and partly dotted with small rocky farms, and within which lay, not indeed a prairie, but an undulating plain, having in its center a dark forest, the haunt of night-prowling animals, the terror of the cornfield, the hen-roost and the sheepfold. Around that forest were cultivated farms, not very productive, but yielding to industry and economy support for a hardy yeomanry, not then disturbed by visions of better acres in the opening West. Had I actually been at the old homestead of Peter Stow, near the western border of that black forest, hardly could I have seen more distinctly the outline and the filling up of that semicircle, with its encompassing hills, than I then beheld them in the "picture-gallery" of the mind. What then to me were the magnificent Alps with their lofty peaks and deep gorges, and their thundering avalanches? I had before me "Croydon Mountain," identified in the memories of childhood with my first ideas of elevation and greatness, and of isolation from all that was beyond, a barrier separating me, not from classic Italy, but from far off Cornish and Grantham.

It was midsummer in the memory, and the warm blue sky was flecked with detached clouds that dappled with shade the sunny landscape. The shadows of those clouds, moved by the lightest, softest winds, as they passed down the mountain side and crossed the plain; and the grass and grain waving in gentle undulations; and the smoke curling aslant from the chimneys of farm-houses—all these had given me, notwithstanding Dr. Darwin's theory, my original impressions of natural beauty. Herds and flocks were grazing quietly in rocky pastures. The atmosphere was loaded with fragrance from clover blossoms, white and red, sweeter

than any perfume from Araby the Blest. No sounds fell upon the ear but the music of birds, or the hum of insects, or, at the hour of twelve, the housewife's horn calling the hungry "men folks" from the field of toil to her prepared table ; or, at night-fall, the hoarse cry of the night hawk and the inimitable hoot of the "boding owl," both relieved by the plaintive notes of the hidden whip-poor-will. And that house of my nativity, as innocent of paint as a Croydon maiden's face, very small, quite rustic, with few conveniences, yet the palace of an independent lord and his wife and four children—how particular were my recollections of its exact structure, gable-end to the street ; of its every apartment, every article of furniture, every fireplace, door, window, stairway ; of the floor and ceiling ; of the cupboard and dresser ; of

"The family Bible that lay on the stand ;"

yes, and especially of all the inmates, the permanent and the occasional !

"Fond Memory, to her duty true,
Brings back their faded forms to view ;
How lifelike, through the mist of years,
Each well-remembered face appears !"

There was on the one side the wood shed, in one part of which was the platform for spinning, quilling, warping, weaving, with all the implements of domestic manufacturing. On the other, through "the stoop," was the well, with "crotch," and "sweep," and "pole," and "curb," and "old oaken bucket," and crystal water of arctic coolness. There was the garden, inclosed by a stone wall, with its fringe of currant bushes, and a thrifty nursery, and patches of vegetables, and in the center the large granite boulder smothered with roses. In the roadway was a still larger

boulder, the "pulpit rock" of the future preacher. A little further down was a brook where cousins of two families met and childishly sported. In front of the house was a row of Lombardy poplars, tall and luxuriant, never cropped for fagots as I have seen them on their native plains in Northern Italy. In the rear was the apple orchard, laden with unripened, and therefore, forbidden, fruit. At a suitable distance were the barns for the storage of farm products, and for the housing of "stock." At the foot of a small declivity near by was a swamp in which frogs, at certain seasons, gave free concerts—batrachian types of certain classes of my own species whom I have everywhere met—peepers and croakers. The dwellings to be seen from that memorable stand-point were few, some of them hung on the sides of the ragged hills, far apart, and, but for domestic affections, isolated and lonely. I remembered not only the homes, but the faces and the employments and the habits and the temperaments and the reputed characters of all the neighbors within the circle of a mile radius. I remembered the low, flat-roofed school-house of the district, hidden in a small forest nook, fringed with birches and briars ; and the names and faces of my teachers—God bless their precious memories—and the name and face of every fellow-pupil. I remembered nearly all the roads and farms in the town, and most of the residences of the nine hundred inhabitants, and such family names as Metcalf, Wakefield, Stow, Ward, Fletcher, Town, Smart, Carpenter, Rawson, Straight, Powers, Goldthwait, Marsh, Frye, Darling, Thresher, Walker, Ames, Winter, Barton, Carroll, Putnam, Stockwell, Emery, Reed, Cutting, Loverin, Eggleston, Blanchard, Jacobs, Hagar, Wheeler, Crosby, Eastman, Dwinnell,

Breck, Hall, Kempton, Whipple, Ferrin, Nelson, Partridge, Cooper, Paul, Newell, Rider, Melendy, Haven, Durkee, Humphrey, Clement, Sanger ; and of some of these names several families. I remembered how common it was to reduce discriminating names to convenient, familiar monosyllables, as Sam, Ben, Jock, Tim, Joe, Bije, Ned, Jake, Jim, Pete, Sol, Nat, Tom, Nate, Steve, Dave, Josh, Zeke, Lem, Rias, Bill, Reub, Mose, Frank ; but I did not recall one Sammie, or Bennie, or Eddie, or Willie, or Johnnie, or Charlie, or Freddie, or Joey, or Jamie, or Frankie or Georgie, or Hezzie. Among the girls, not then styled young ladies, were Patty, Judy, Tempe, Speedy, Peggy, Nabby, Lize, Sukey, Viney, Milly, Betsey, Fanny, Prudy, Roxy, Sally, Polly, Cindy, Listy, Jinny ; but not, as I recollect, one Hattie, or Susie, or Nannie, or Josie, or Bessie, or Lillie, or Addie, or Tillie, or Celestie, or Lulu, or Katie, or Minnie, or Rosie, or Libbie, or Maggie or Carrie. Couples were married by priest Haven, not as gentlemen and ladies, but as men and women. Father was not "pa" or "papa," but quite generally "dad" or "daddy." Mother was not "ma," but "mammy." Brother was not "bubby," or sister "sissy." The modern refinements in nomenclature and terms of endearment had not then reached so far as Croydon. Are they now here ? If they are, do you count them improvements ? Do they convey more heart than the old styles of familiar address ?

I remembered the June training, and the one Croydon company of militia ; and the muster days, and the thirty-first regiment, and its field officers, and its "troopers," and "Springfield grenadiers," and its regimental flag, and its sham fights, brave and bloodless. I remembered the town

meetings, and the spelling schools, and the squirrel hunts, and the working on the highways, and the house-warmings, and the huskings and the quiltings—not all yet as I am told, quite obsolete institutions. And I remembered the one house of Christian worship, and also the one tavern and two stores, the one carding machine and here and there a smithery, the one tannery and a few grist and saw-mills. But I remembered no lawyer or sheriff—no law officers but two justices of the peace and the tything-men, the latter the special terror of Sabbath-desecrating boys. Some of you, like myself, may recollect those keen-eyed detectives, Samuel Metcalf and Sherman Cooper.

I remembered the burial place, “God’s Acre,”

“Where the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep;”

imperfectly inclosed, showing little of the hand of care, overgrown with mullens and briers, and far more repulsive than attractive. There were grassy mounds and significant hollows, and an occasional headstone of blue slate, but not one of marble; and fresh in my memory were names and quaint inscriptions, closing with the monitory couplet,

“Death is a debt to Nature due,
Which I have paid, and so must you;”

or with a fuller statement,

“As you are now, so once was I,
As I am now, you soon must be;
Remember, you are born to die;
Therefore, prepare to follow me.”

Say not that all this was a waking dream or a reverie, for it was neither; it was a simple look into the “picture-gallery” of the soul, and the key that unlocked the particular apartment where the Croydon of my childhood was permanently portrayed, was that little flower which had

done for me what no other of all the flora of Europe could have done. The process was rapid. I sat not long on that grassy hillock, for the sun was declining, and a cold wind was setting in from the frozen Alps, and, plucking that suggestive flower, I hastened back to my lodgings. From that hour I hoped that you would, in 1866, do what you are so effectively doing to-day, and that I might be permitted to join you in commemorating the worth and the deeds of our ancestors who here made the first settlement, and commenced for the town the history you are passing in review.

Be assured, Mr. President and fellow-townsmen, I speak with intense sincerity ; I count it a special privilege to be here to-day. And why should I not ? Though long absent, I return with memories fresh and vivid. I am living over the first eight years of my varied, eventful life. I have seen many parts of the world, the New and the Old ; but no spot on either continent, in city or country, is so dear to me as my native town. I stop not to analyze this feeling of preference ; probably it defies all analysis and explanation ; but I know it to be a fixed fact in my being, and only by the annihilation of that being can it be dislodged. My spirit is mellow and tender with reminiscences of the place and the people as they were when this was my home. What I have described as lying far back in my memory, is, I presume, but a representative of what is depicted with equal clearness in the memories of others. The Wheelers, the Metcalfs, the Halls, the Powers, the Whipples, the Havens, the Carrolls, the Putnams, and all the rest of you who have lived fifty years and more, have your own picture-galleries,

open to-day and filled with images of the past. You are thinking of old homesteads, and parents, and neighbors, and the events of your early days. Some of you, natives of Croydon, are older than myself, and can remember farther back ; but none of you who have been long away, I am sure, have returned with a stronger love for our native hills, or a heart warmer with gratitude that this was our birth-place, or that here we were trained to commence life in earnest. I join you fervently in these commemorative services, and cordially lay on this altar of reunion my small contribution.

Of those who, one hundred years ago, commenced here a settlement, all have long since passed away. Since I left the town, nearly two generations have come and gone. Were the first two children who were born near this spot—Catharine Whipple and Joshua Chase—now living, they would be ninety-nine years old. Very few born in the last century are present to-day. As I visit other places where I have resided, and inquire for old acquaintances, I am directed to the cemeteries. The same would be done, more or less, in Croydon ; and yet fewer in number, in proportion to the population, have closed their mission here, for more than two-thirds of those born here have emigrated, and their graves are to be found in many States, all the way from the Penobscot to the regions beyond the Father of Waters.

I remember a few of the pioneers—more especially Moses Whipple, the veteran deacon, the man of large heart, and upright character, the genial peace-maker, respected and beloved by all ; and Ezekiel Powers, the man of large bodily proportions, whose inventive faculties and achieve-

ments of muscular strength and sterling common sense made him the hero of many a tradition. The men of the first half century were a hardy race, enterprising, adventurous, made robust by toil and exposure, with great powers of endurance, and renowned for uncommon triumphs over rugged obstacles. Nowhere else have I seen men of such physical frames and such executive energies as some whom I remember. With what rapt interest and admiration I listened, as a child, by the hour to stories of their hardships and exploits in land-clearing, river-bridging, road-making, house-building, sugar-manufacturing, bear-hunting, otter and beaver-trapping, snow-shoe-traveling ! How unproductive was often the soil they cultivated ; how unfriendly were the late spring and early autumnal frosts ; how obstructing were the terrific snow-storms ; how short and capricious were their summers, and long and rigorous their winters ; how difficult to protect their scanty crops and live stock from the depredations of wild beasts ; how coarse and often restricted were their means of sustenance ; how stringent were their privations during the Revolutionary War ; how great their sufferings from a depreciated currency, from the lack of groceries, clothing, and medical supplies ! What an unwritten history ! Traditions, once fresh and thrilling, how faded already, and soon to be wholly forgotten ! Young as I was, I listened eagerly, and my memory was charged to repletion with narratives, original and second-hand, from my paternal grandmother, from Samuel Powers, Sherman Cooper, Aaron Whipple, and, may I not add, from that venerable spinster, "aunt Lizzie Sanger." I was fond of the captivating detail of Jewish, Grecian, Roman and English history ; but nothing

that I read struck roots so deeply in my inner being, and fixed there so permanent a lodgment, as those oral narratives heard by childhood's ear during the long winter evenings nearly sixty years ago. Often since have I coveted the descriptive powers of those strong-minded stalwart veterans, some of whom were actors in the rough scenes they graphically portrayed. They had the elements of first-class orators. And among those narrated marvels were not a few of the heroic achievements of Croydon women, the great-grandmothers of many now before me ; of what they effectively did and bravely suffered, when their husbands, fathers, brothers, sons, were away contending for their country's independence. I remember some of those women, of uncommon brain and muscle, giantesses and the mothers of giants ; and few of the sex have I since seen who equaled them in strength of intellect and executive accomplishment. None of them are here ; but memory holds in the " picture-gallery " their forms and features and intonations of speech.

Mr. President, by some unaccountable process, I have had the misfortune to be announced for an " oration " on this festive occasion. That is what your Committee never asked of me, and what I never promised or contemplated. I am here no more to pronounce an oration than I am to preach a sermon. I consented, as one of the speakers, to contribute something in the way of reminiscences. Twenty years ago, I was more formal in a memorial service at Newport, when there was a reunion, not of natives merely, but of past and present residents. And, nineteen years ago, at Sherburne, Mass., I addressed, in quite another style,

the descendants of Henry Leland, some of whose posterity, at an early period, settled in Croydon. But this is neither Newport nor Sherburne ; it is MY BIRTHPLACE, the home of my progenitors, full to overflow of the tenderest associations, and the affections here burn with an intensity that forbids all intellectual elaboration.

To say much of persons might be deemed invidious ; but of a very few I may speak particularly without incurring the imputation of partiality.

Foremost among those remembered, I mention Jacob Haven, uniformly called "Priest," as were all Congregational ministers in this region, while Baptist and Freewill Baptist ministers were as uniformly known by the title of "Elder." For more than half a century he was prominently identified with the history of the town. A native of Framingham, Mass., he was here ordained in 1788, and here he died in 1845. He was called to the pastorate by the legal voters of the town, who determined his salary ; and, being the first minister settled, he was the recipient of the share of land reserved for that purpose by the grantor, Governor Wentworth. In 1805, he ceased to be the minister of the town, and became the pastor of such as adhered to him by similarity of religious views or affinity of personal feeling, and were willing to support him.

You who are not past forty do not remember the old meeting-house, a very plain structure, never finished, and too cold to be occupied in the winter. I recollect how the plates, beams and king-posts were exposed on the inside. The pews were square, with perpendicular partitions, and with turn-up seats which, at the close of the "long prayer,"

were let down with a famous clatter, sometimes before the "Amen." The seats were uncushioned, the aisles were uncarpeted, and many panes in the numerous windows were broken. The pulpit, behind which was the royal window, was very elevated, and contained a square block for a rest to the shorter limb of the Priest as he stood at his work. Overhanging was a clumsy "canopy" or "sounding-board." Half way up the pulpit, at the first landing, were the "Deacon's seats," graced, as I well remember, by such worthies as Moses Whipple, Stephen Powers, and Sherman Cooper. In the front gallery was the choir of singers, unsustained by organ or seraphine or even a "big fiddle," but conducted by Samuel Metcalf, who gave the key-note with his pitch-pipe, and then, in unison with the rest, sounded out the initial "fa-sol-la-mi-fa." In some of the old fugue tunes, O, how they raced in mazy confusion, all coming out nearly together! At one end of the house was a tower surmounted by a belfry, from which never a bell sent its peals among these hills. Around the house was a profusion of mayweed, milkweed, and huge thistles with fragrant blossoms and sharp thorns. In my earlier years, no vehicle with wheels ever visited that sanctuary. Some of the people went on foot, others on horseback. Now and then there was a side-saddle; but the "pillion" was the more common convenience for the women. It was nothing unusual for the husband and wife to arrive on one horse, she behind bearing an infant in her arms, and he an older child upon a pillow on the pommel of the saddle. This various burden was conveniently dismounted at the "horse-block."

In that house, with the exception of the winter months, Priest Haven officiated from 1794 to 1826. He was a good

preacher, not brilliantly rhetorical, but serious in manner, clear in statement, logical in reasoning, and forcible in appeal. A few weeks since, a gentleman from this vicinity, speaking of a lady of this town, said to me that she was "the most intelligible lady in Croydon." It was not exactly the compliment he intended ; but of Priest Haven it was true that he was both intelligible and intelligent. He made himself understood. That he was impressive, I have occasion to know, for I remember well a sermon I heard him deliver more than fifty years ago, on a communion day, from the words, "*I will wash mine hands in innocency ; so will I compass thine altar, O Lord.*" He never had a liberal salary. When settled, the town voted him forty pounds, to be increased, in certain contingences, to sixty pounds ; "the sum to be paid in neat stock, equal to good grass-fed beef, at twenty shillings per hundred weight, or good rye at four shillings per bushel." He manifested a deep interest in the schools, and was an earnest promoter of all efforts to improve the morals of the town. He solemnized, for a long period, nearly all the marriages, and officiated at nearly all the funerals ; but he never grew rich by the compensation for such services, any more than by his scanty salary. For thirty-two years he was Town Clerk, and few municipal records will more creditably bear inspection. He died beloved and lamented.

I remember only one physician—Reuben Carroll—who practiced here forty-seven years, and had largely the confidence of the people. His personal appearance, and his figure on horseback, are distinct in my memory ; yes, and those large black saddle-bags, redolent of odors not all from Cashmere or Damascus. His physiognomy was peculiar,

intensely medical, and, in my simplicity, I inferred that the configuration of his facial muscles was influenced by his smelling his own drugs. He was physician, surgeon and apothecary, with a varied but not very lucrative practice. One cold winter day, as I returned from school, I was informed that I had a little brother in the house. Though less than five years old, I loved knowledge, and earnestly inquired as to the origin of the important stranger. My grandmother, who was sometimes a little waggish, for she was a Powers, bantered me with evasive answers. Not to be foiled, I pressed my inquiry, and she then told me, "Dr. Carroll brought him." Well, that was, for the time being, satisfactory, for it was definitive, and I had at once a solution of the mystery as to the required capacity of those odoriferous saddle-bags. How wise was I in my reasoning that Dr. Carroll kept a supply of the little folks ready-made, and dispensed them about town, wherever wanted.

Let me mention one other individual who has a large place in my recollections—the negro, Scipio Page, always on hand at town meetings and military trainings, grand caterer for the appetites of all who would pay their coppers for fruits, cakes and pastry. He was dismally black as if right from Congo, and his name was freely used in family discipline. "Old Scip will catch you," was the climax of threats to refractory children, and planted in many a mind a prejudice against color that was all but ineradicable. Really, "Old Scip" was one of the most harmless of men, doing what many of his despisers did not—honestly earning his own bread, and minding his own business.

I remember the schools as few, and not of a very high order. How well do I recollect one, with short terms, summer

and winter, and with Vashti Hagar and Ezra Gustin as teachers—the former still living, in Illinois, and, at the age of eighty-one, a correspondent whom I value for her deep piety and vigorous good sense. The prejudice here against education, more advanced than the product of common schools, was almost universal, and a desire for more was set down to the account of indolence or misdirected ambition. The boy who ventured to look towards a College, declined at once in position among his fellows.

The only public work of those days was the Croydon Turnpike, and I remember how the share-holders, many of whom worked out their subscriptions to the stock by building each a section of the road, and who were promised large dividends, received their income mostly in the shape of assessments for repairs and the support of turnpike gates.

The politics of the town were then strongly Democratic, of the Jeffersonian type, and party-spirit acrimoniously divided the men, women and children. I had an aunt, living with one of the meekest of husbands in yonder house, who could talk on public affairs more intelligently and smartly than some of the men whom we now send to Washington.

As we had no mails, newspapers were brought weekly by post-riders from Concord and Walpole; and, though few were taken, they were read with avidity, and loaned from hand to hand, and their contents were talked over at Edward Hall's and James Breck's stores, and Benjamin Barton's tavern, and sometimes at "intermissions" of Sabbath services.

The first settlers were chiefly from Worcester County, Mass., and were decidedly, stringently puritanical. Tradi-

tion has brought down many a fact, showing how severely conscientious they were in the observance of the Sabbath, and all this while they had no church, no minister, no gathering place for Christian worship. But most certainly the next generation, as I knew it, was more lax in morals. Religious dissensions and political bitterness had their influence in the deteriorating process ; but the copious influx and fearful consumption of New England rum did far more in the work of degeneracy. Terrible was the havoc made by that fiery agent among the bodies, minds, morals and estates of the population. Some of you remember those days of declining industry, mortgaged farms, absconding debtors, and deplorable indifference to the Sabbath and Christian proprieties. Many vices, such as horse-racing, gambling, licentiousness, were among the natural concomitants of the radical evil. But, in the third generation, there was happily a change in the habits of the people ; the temperance reform wrought beneficent transformations ; and the favorable result was seen in their persons and their manners, in their dwellings and their farms—in the general aspect of the town both physical and moral. What may now be the condition of things, I am incompetent to speak ; but I look to-day with delight upon your countenances, so different from many that I remember, inflamed, bloated, scarred with the furnace-fires of imbibed alcohol. God bless you all my relatives and friends, and mercifully preserve you from another such volcanic devastation !

But I must not trespass upon time that belongs to others. The representatives of many families are present, and their reminiscences must be as full and as interesting as my own. We are here after a long separation, that we may have one

earthly reunion, and bring together the treasures of quickened memories ; and especially that we may garland the graves of the intrepid few who, on these hill-sides and along these water-courses, laid good foundations for the thrift of their successors. I have done what I could. You may do immensely better.

What now of the future ? Three generations have passed away. What shall be the character and achievements of the next three ? Who will gather here, in 1966, and rehearse the story of two centuries ? Long ere that second centennial, we shall all have joined the congregation of the departed, and our dust will repose in stillness as now reposes the dust of our revered ancestors. May we so live, and so fulfill the trusts of life, as that we may have a joyous reunion in the Better Land.

After the Address, and music by the Band, the procession was again formed under the direction of the Chief Marshal and escorted to the table, which had been bountifully spread by the people of the town, and was free to all. The Divine blessing was invoked by the Rev. C. M. Dinsmore, of Newport, and more than two thousand persons partook of the repast. The table, some thousand feet in length, was divided into seven sections. One section was entirely provided for by the liberality of the Hon. Lemuel P. Cooper, and was most tastefully arranged and decorated by the ladies of his household. On its center was "a fatted calf," roasted whole. The town had been divided into six districts, and as each district was to furnish one section of the table, there arose, at once, a generous rivalry, as to which should surpass the other in the amount and excellence of its supplies and the beauty of its ornaments, and the result was

most happy and alike honorable to the liberality and taste of the town. When all had been fed, many a basket was taken away unopened.

After dinner the procession was re-formed and marched back to the stand. The assembly was called to order and listened to music by the band.

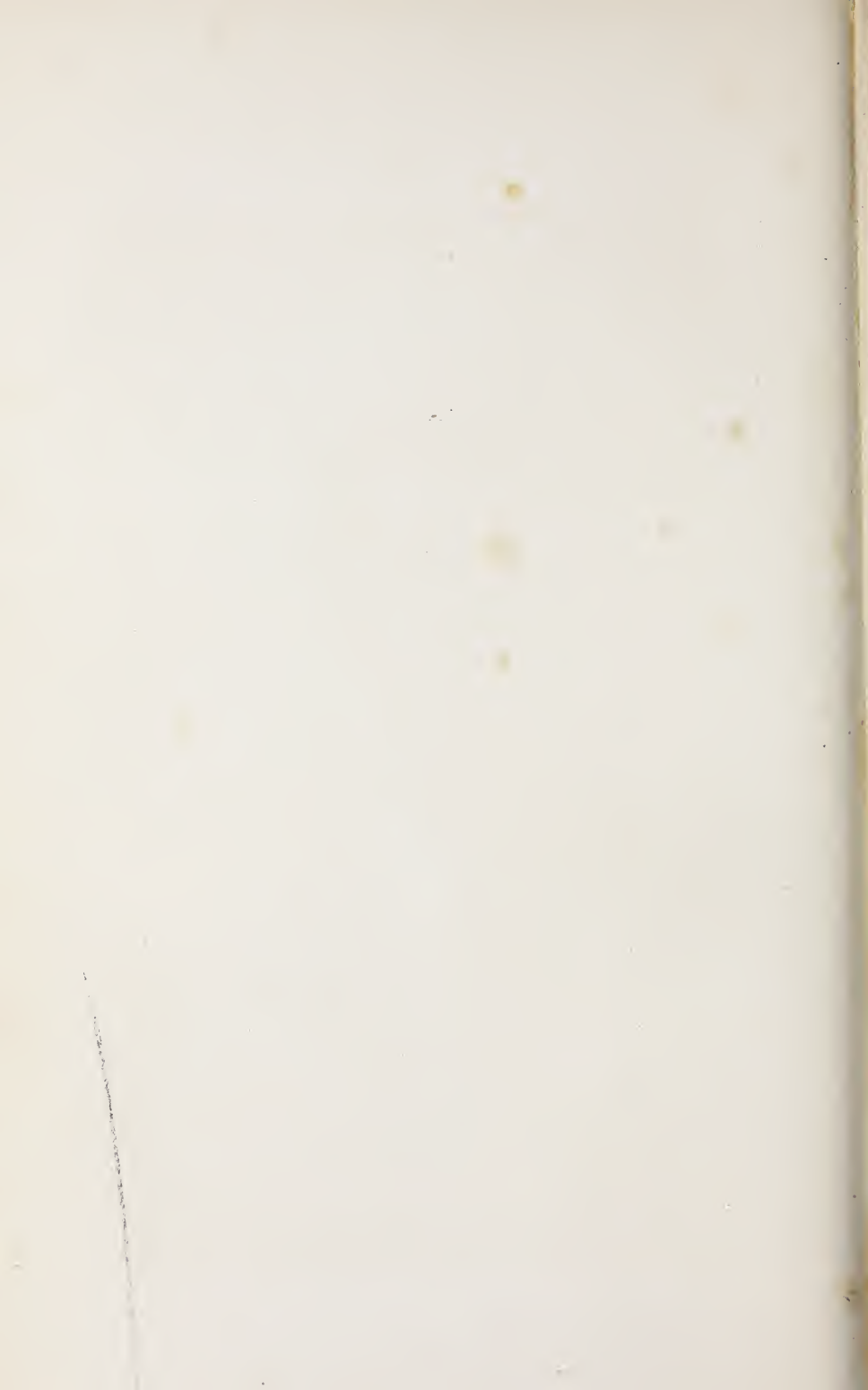
THE PRESIDENT.—Although much has been *done* since we left the stand, there are things yet to be *said* to which you will be glad to listen. I see before me one belonging to what is supposed to be the talking fraternity, with whose voice and manly proportions I have long been familiar in the Court-Room, and who, I doubt not, can say something out of doors. We expect to hear from the Bartons and Powers in combination and separately; and first in combination, I now call for a speech from LEVI W. BARTON, Esq., of Newport.

Mr. Barton said :

MR. PRESIDENT : I could wish, Sir, that you had called upon some other son of Croydon to speak, at this time, in my stead. The entertainment from which we have just returned, which has so generously contributed to our physical comfort, has but poorly fitted me to take a part, however humble, in the exercises in which we are now to engage. Besides, Sir, the scene before me, the remembrance of former days, and the sacred memories of the past, have so wrought upon my feelings, that my tongue falters, and my eyes are in full sympathy with the weeping clouds over us. Gladly would I sit in silence, and yield myself to the reflections which the hour suggests. Though belonging to the "speaking fraternity," as you have announced, I confess,



Levi M. Barton.



Sir, that my best selected words are all too poor to express the deep emotion of my heart. Before me are the sons and daughters of my own native town, who scattered by the events of life have come back to visit the place of their birth and the home of their childhood. Yes, like pilgrims we have come back with our wives, children and friends, to enjoy mutual congratulations, and share with each other the sacred associations of a place made dear to us by a thousand tender recollections.

Many of us are standing upon the play-ground of our childhood. Here was the arena of athletic sports—of exciting games and innocent amusements. How distinct the remembrance—how fond the recollections. Around us, on all sides, are the dear old hills and valleys—fond remembrances of by-gone pleasures, for here we cherished many a pleasant dream of life, all unmindful of life's thorny road. Before us is the old, familiar river, along whose banks we so often roamed and in whose waters we have so often sported. Yonder is the spot where stood the old village school-house, around which clusters the most interesting and abiding recollections. Beyond stands the same old wood, still vocal with the sweet carol of the forest bird, which so delighted our ear in school-boy days. How sweet in the warm summer days was the water which gushed, cool and sparkling from yonder hill-side. How beautiful from the rocky summit above was the view below of the meandering river, the placid ponds where grew the pure, sweet-scented lily, the rich green meadows, and beyond all, my own sunny home; where with brothers and sisters I was watched over and cared for by my then youthful but now aged mother. You will pardon me, if I say that around all these haunts

of childhood there seemed to linger a brighter halo of light than shines upon any other spot which my eye has ever beheld. With the feeling which prompted the beautiful sentiment of the poet, I would say :

“How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood
When fond recollection presents them to view.”

But not all to whom these scenes and haunts are familiar are permitted to see this historic day. Many have fallen in their various fields of labor, far away from their early home ; others have here fainted by the way, and yonder church-yard holds their sacred dust.

But I am carried back to the storied past. Standing at a century-point from the settlement of the town I seem to see in panoramic view the scenes and events of those early days. One hundred years have passed away since our ancestors—those hardy pioneers of civilization—sought homes in the unbroken wilderness where now we see smiling fields, and cultivated farms. We seem to see them now, as they grappled manfully and resolutely with the hardships of pioneer life. No exposure, no danger or privation could detain them from the accomplishment of their high purpose. Relying upon the God of their fathers, they were hopeful amidst discouragements, and “patient in tribulation.” They were of the Puritan stock and inherited their love of justice, their devotion to principle and their contempt of toil and danger. Such men were Whipple, Chase, Warren, Leland, Powers and others, who one century ago laid the foundation of this town. They yielded up the endearments of homes and the associations of friends, to receive in exchange the hardships and privations incident to a new settlement. No friendly voice greeted their arrival, no kind hand was outstretched for their relief. The damp earth was their couch, the overhang-

ing branches of the trees their only roof. The woodman's axe soon breaks the silence of the dense old forest. Soon the curling smoke of the rude log cabin is seen to rise above the tree-tops. Years of privation followed in which, though deprived of most of the physical comforts of life, they were not unmindful of the true element of a permanent prosperity. Here the church was erected, within the rude but consecrated walls of which devout prayer and praise arose from hearts of humble worshippers. Here, too, they erected the school-house—the auxiliary of the Church and the nursery of a true republican state. Thus did our fathers plant a wild, uncultivated wilderness with Christian homes, Christian churches, and common schools.

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But the early settlers of Croydon were not more devoted to their religious and moral obligations than to their claims of country and the civil rights of man. From the battle of Lexington to the close of the war of independence, her sons went promptly forth to battle for home and country. Then, as in the war for the preservation of the Union, her sons were found where duty called. She has never tolerated tories and traitors upon her soil. How valuable the legacy which has been bequeathed to us. How great our obligation to transmit it to posterity. This day forms a connecting link between the past century, with all its sorrows and joys, its sad recollections and sacred memories, and the coming century with all its hopes of good and bright anticipations. By the veneration we entertain for our fathers—by the love we have for posterity not less than a due regard for our own welfare—we are admonished that we occupy positions of grave responsibility. The influence of individual life extends far beyond the limits of our earthly career. The

condition of generations which are to follow us depends in no small degree upon the acts we do and the lives we live. How fit the occasion for high and noble resolutions. Let us see to it that posterity have no occasion to reproach us, and that when they shall meet, as we do to-day, to mark another century in the history of our town, they may be able to refer to our record, as we do to that of our fathers, with feelings of pride and veneration. May we then be counted faithful guardians and worthy stewards of the trust committed to us.

May this day form a golden link in friendship's chain, binding us by the sweet influence of association to each other and to our native town. But, Mr. President, I am fearful I have spoken too long and trespassed on time which properly belongs to others. My friends, in conclusion let me say, that you have heard, though imperfectly I confess, from the "Bartons and Powerses in combination." I trust that you will not judge of the standing and strength of my maternal or paternal ancestors, by this hasty and immature effort of mine. They deserve to be judged by a higher standard. Their history is interwoven most closely with the history of the town, from its earliest days. I trust I shall not be charged with invidious boasting if I claim for them, as families, a somewhat leading position in the various walks of social and civil life. To say that they had faults is but to proclaim their common humanity.

Let us, their descendants, avoid their errors and emulate their virtues, for in no way can we honor them so much as by excelling them in virtue.

In closing, allow me to present to the assembly the following sentiment :





Augusta Cooper Bristol

JOHN COOPER, the Historian of Croydon : While endeavoring to rescue the names and deeds of his ancestors from oblivion, he has secured his own immortality.

THE PRESIDENT.—The weather does not seem propitious for the muses this afternoon; but Croydon Poets are irrepressible. You will listen to a Centennial Poem prepared for the occasion by Mrs. AUGUSTA COOPER BRISTOL, of Illinois.

The following Poem was then read and sung by the Glee Club :

No power has made secure or fast,
The sepulchre with portal vast,
That opens on the buried Past.

And Poesy puts forth her hand,
And group by group, and band by band,
The dead years rise at her command.

Not freezing specters, chill and numb,
Nor ghostly shadows, dim and dumb;—
But crowned and glorified they come.

Their step a song, their march a rhyme,
Along the grand arcade of Time,
The century-children tower sublime.

Titans, majestically tall,
The ancient years rise first of all,
In answer to my poet call.

Giants of sternest hardihood,
They cleave a pathway rough and rude,
Defeating wrong, achieving good.

Where Nature all unconquered stands,
They lift their iron-sinewed hands,
And train her meek to their commands.

Severely brave, because so pure,
They fail not. Victory is sure!
They grapple, conquer, and secure!

Their code confronts Oppression's rod!—
"All men are kings upon the sod,
Heaven-vested! Only God is God!"

They are unto themselves reward ;
 They hold the beauty of accord,
 And theirs the secret of the Lord.

They pass ;—and still a later throng
 Of century-children sweep along,
 Urged by the miracle of song.

These bring the balmy bud of Peace ;
 Their calm eyes hold a blessed lease
 Of homely comfort and increase.

Sweet counterparts, in Time's refrain,
 They round the rich crescendo strain
 Of Plenty, Industry, and Gain.

And Art ignores her doubtful pause,
 And Science, trusty vassal, draws
 The veil from Nature's cryptic laws.

For them Contentment wreaths her vine,
 And floods them with auroral shine,
 As slow they vanish,—line by line.

And following them, the immortal few,—
 Last in the century review,—
 Move down the spirit avenue.

The Christs among the ages ! Lo,
 The carmine drips across the snow
 Of their pure vesture as they go !

And all the blood-drops, purple-ripe,
 And every symbol stain and stripe,
 Divinest meanings stereotype.

Their God-thought blossoms into deed ;
 Freedom and brotherhood their creed,
 To right all human wrong and need.

They thunder at the monarch's gate,
 " One throne alone 's inviolate !—
 The White Throne where the angels wait."

Around Oppression's grave they chant
 Their hallelujahs jubilant,
 Till earth and heaven are reboant.

Their martyr-brows are aureate
 With thought. Their lifted eyes dilate
 With visions of man's ultimate.

Sublimest of the century name,
 They pass enwrapt in spirit flame,
 And fade all-glorious as they came.

Divinely wrought, and mission true,
Far in the silence and the blue,
Fades out the hundred-year review.

Oh raise for them a pean free,
My friends to-day! for unto thee
They leave a royal legacy.

A power to smite Injustice down;
To give to Freedom's brow the crown,
Though kings demur and tyrants frown.

A will all human woe to heed,
To seize ideal thought at need,
And crystalize it into deed.

A hope to fill the heart with song,
Though Right should seem eclipsed by Wrong,
And life engloomed with shadows long.

A consciousness untrained and free,
That spheres what Reason cannot see!—
Feels God through self-divinity.

And best of all the precious dower,
The cheerful spirit-will and power,
That waits on duty, hour by hour.

Oh, close to all the heart reveres,
Our royal legacy adheres—
Bequeathment of a hundred years!

May the Almighty's record-page,
Prove that the heirs of such an age
Were worthy of their heritage.

Then raise a pean full and free,
And in the sweets of jubilee
Embalm the dear old Century.

THE PRESIDENT.—You will next listen to a voice which comes back to us from the Empire State,—a man in whom, if reports be true, are combined great professional skill and princely munificence. When a son of Dea. Sherman Cooper speaks, you will all delight to listen. I call upon Dr. WILLIAM F. COOPER, of New York, for a speech.

Mr Cooper responded as follows :

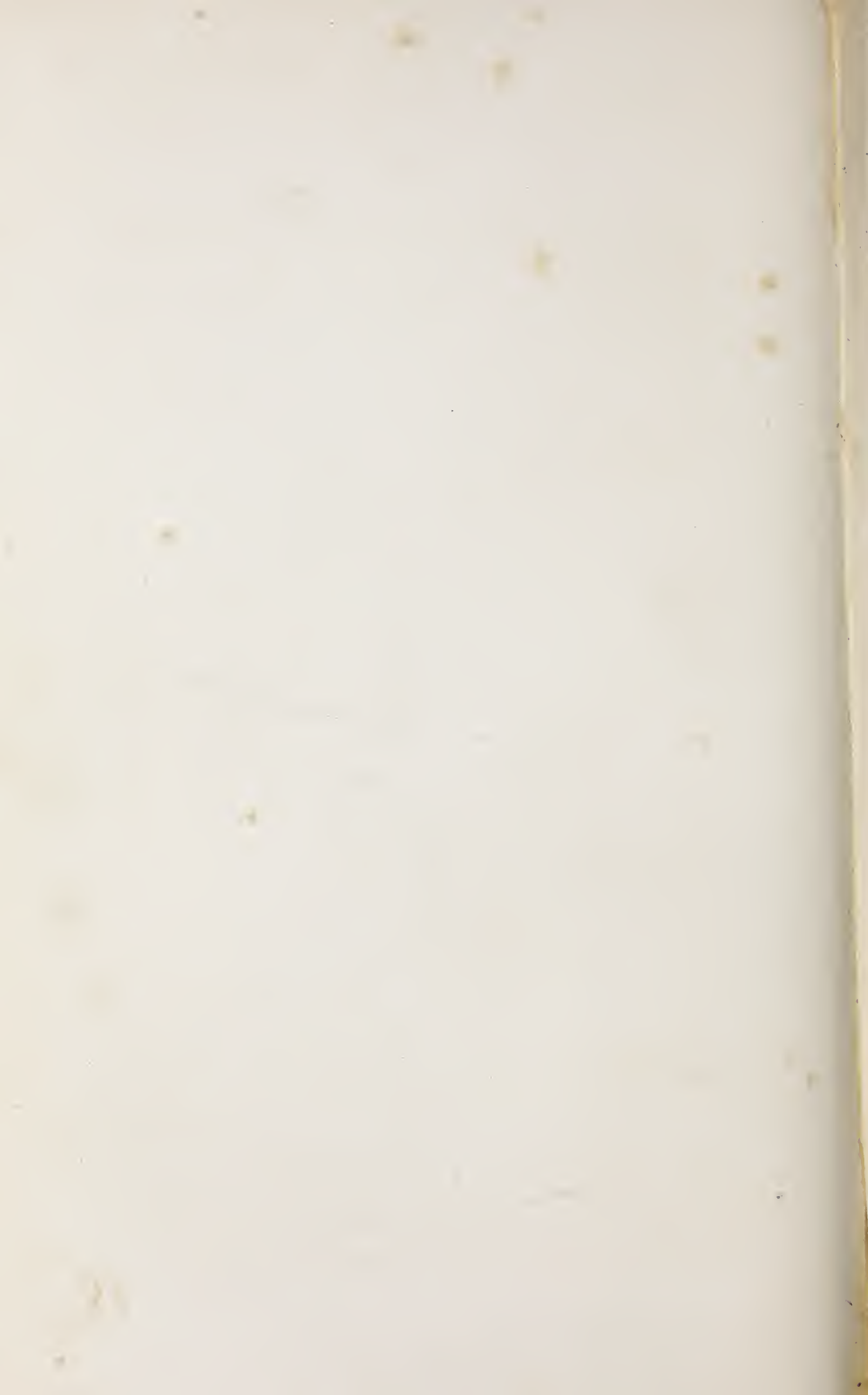
Mr. President, Gentlemen and Ladies :

I did not know that I was expected to speak on this occasion till since my arrival. I am not used to speaking in public, the last forty years of my life having been spent in the sick-room, where the hushed voice and muffled step have ill prepared me to appear before this vast assembly. But, after an absence of thirty-nine years, I am glad to revisit the town of my birth and the place of my boyhood ; and I am gratified that so many of my fellow-townsmen and their descendants have given me and those that I have brought with me so cordial a reception.

I went out from you in my strength; I have returned to you in my weakness. I went to a section of country where are no mountains; nor are there any rocks except of secondary formation. Your mountains and your vast bowlders of granite awaken in me feelings of sublimity and grandeur at the power of the Creator. Though your mountains and rocks remain much the same, O how altered are the inhabitants since I left you, and what vacancies do I see in the crowd around me ! I fail to see the manly form and countenance of Abijah Powers, and the firm, military step of Samuel Powers. I fail to see those Revolutionary patriots, who composed the heads of so many families. They were men that left their homes in the depth of winter, and marched on snow-shoes, under Arnold, amid cold and starvation, into Canada. I fail to see the noble men who, when one-half of the men in town, capable of bearing arms, were called for to stop the progress of Gen. Burgoyne and his well-drilled army in their march from Canada to Albany, responded to the call, met and routed the enemy at Bennington, and afterwards at Saratoga, capturing the General and



William F. Cooper



his whole army, and thereby forever rendering those battle-fields classic ground.

Remember, Mr. President, that only ten years had elapsed after the first settler had found his way to Croydon, before the storm of the Revolution swept over the scattered settlement. Where can another lot of such self-sacrificing men be found? Your rugged soil and mountain air were well calculated to make patriots—to make men; and well did they fulfill their mission. But those patriots are all gone. Not one remains to tell us, as they often did on training and “election” days, of the hardships and sufferings which they went through, and of their love of General Washington.

Mr. President: I have visited the first cemetery of this town; and I have visited the last one. There I saw the resting place, and read the epitaphs of your ancestors and mine. I went alone—the most fitting way of visiting the “City of the Dead.” There I saw the grave of the first one born in town. There I saw the graves of my school-mates, the companions of my boyhood. There I saw the resting place of my parents, whom I left in health, as I went to seek my fortune amongst strangers. They lived to a good old age, and their deaths were regretted by the community in which they lived. In these grave-yards sleep those who cleared up this rugged town, established these schools and churches, and laid the foundation of all that is calculated to make true men and women of all within the hearing of my voice. There those sleepers must lie till the morn of the resurrection. And, Mr. President, is it not a thought calculated to make us better men and women, that the next Centennial Anniversary will find this vast crowd of living faces asleep with their fathers?

Mr. President : I feel like indulging in some reminiscences of my own early personal history. Here I was born; here in your midst I went in and out; and here my character was formed—for good or for bad. You are my witnesses that after the strictest sect I was brought up a Pharisee. I visited yesterday the place where I attended the district school. The house was gone, but the foundation was there. It carried me back to the years of my boyhood, when Carlton Barton kept the school winter after winter. The stove-pipe that ran up almost perpendicularly, was oval in shape and as large as my body. The house being poorly lighted, the area behind the stove was usually too dark to be used for study or recitation. There I often went to warm myself and contrive to make the other scholars laugh. The teacher would call them up and punish them, while I always escaped punishment—except in a single instance. A man by the name of Wood once taught the school. He saw me making faces at him, and pounced upon me so suddenly, that I was much frightened. Although the school-house is gone, the stream of water which ran beside it is there still; and the furrows which the stream in past ages had worn in running over the granite ledge, are also there. There we used to go and drink the running water in summer—and many a time have I cut the silverweed stems that were hollow, and gave them to the pretty girls, for them to put in their mouths and draw up drink. I have no recollection of ever getting any for the boys.

The white birch is also gone. It was a crotched tree, the crotch having been used by me for a pulpit. There I used to sit and act as minister to a little flock of girls and boys that would gather around me during the noonings. They

would sing, and I would pray and preach. Those days, I now know, were my happiest days. I was then looking forward to better days, but I have never seen them.

Mr. President : As I stand on this platform, I see the familiar river that meanders through the meadow a few rods before me. It brings vividly to my recollection an incident of my first *love*. I was then ten years old, being about the same age of Patty Winter, my lady-love. We used to attend the same school ; and we read, and spelled and played together. She wore a red dress, and was thought by me to be a little angel. Mr. Durkee, one of our neighbors, had hay dry enough to be put in the barn—and there were signs of rain. The neighbors were called upon for help ; and I, a ten years old boy, was required to rake after the cart. Being a warm day, James Powers sent to Captain Whipple's distillery and got some potato whisky. They all drank, and gave to me. Having never tasted anything of the kind before, I drank because others drank. The consequence was that I soon became drunk ; and, as I was raking on the bank of the river, I fell in, and was nearly drowned. I was rescued by Obed Whipple ; and after I got over strangling so that I could speak, my first words were, "*Don't tell Patty Winter.*" So you see, gentlemen and ladies, that my love for the fair sex, at that innocent age, was stronger than for either earth or heaven. And there are some of my neighbors standing here, that can tell you if in that respect any change has taken place in me since.

Mr. President : I will draw my remarks to a close, as others are to follow me. But, before retiring, I wish to speak of the deep religious principles of some of the early settlers of this town, and of their strict adherence both to

the letter and spirit of the Bible. Perhaps I cannot better illustrate these than by citing the case of Ezekiel Powers, as a representative man of the first settlers of Croydon. Some years after the first settlement, a minister by the name of Ballard came into town, gathered a church, and established rules for the guidance of members and the government of the church. One rule made it the duty of church-members to keep the Sabbath day holy, and have their children do the same. It was, in an especial manner, enjoined on parents to prohibit their sons from going a courting, and their daughters from having sparks, as they were called, on Sunday nights. Another ordinance passed by the church was, that if a parent could not make his children obey him after suitable admonition and correction, he was to report them to the church, where by a vote they were to be "thrown over to the buffetings of satan."

Ezekiel Powers, on his return from the meeting in which these ordinances were passed, called his family around him, and told them of the ordinances of the church. Being an indulgent parent, he told them that they should be indulged in anything not forbidden in the Bible; but his commands and the rules and regulations of the church must be obeyed. He closed the interview with prayer—praying that the Lord would cause his children to obey. But his oldest son Ezekiel, sixteen years of age, went that same night a courting, and did not return home till the family were at breakfast. As he entered the room on Monday morning, his father seized him by the collar, cuffed and shook him, and whipped him severely, telling him at the conclusion, that if he ever transgressed in the same way again, he would double the chastisement. But the son told his father that he should go as

often as he "had a mind to." The father then thought that he had discharged his duty. Accordingly the next Sabbath, after brother Ballard had closed his sermon, Ezekiel Powers arose—his manly form of six feet towering above the congregation—and, with tears streaming down his face, said to the brethren and sisters: "I arise to perform a painful duty to my family, to the church, and to my God. My beloved son Ezekiel proves incorrigible, and went a courting Sunday night; and, however it distresses me to say it, I consent by a vote to heave him over to the buffetings of satan." Ezra Cooper, one of the brethren present, arose about half way up, and, with his arms extended horizontally before him said, "Heave my son Jonathan over with him,"—he having a son of that name, who went a courting the Sunday night before.

It only remains for me, gentlemen and ladies, to thank you for the hospitality with which you have welcomed your returned sons and daughters. I feel proud of Croydon, the town of my birth. All that I am or ever expect to be, rests on the foundation begun, laid and finished here. I feel proud of the ladies that have furnished the tables with such taste and elegance; and I feel proud that the ladies have such good husbands, brothers and sons who have provided so bountifully to fill the tables to overflowing. Finally, I feel proud that I was born in this town. Mr. President, I feel proud that the talented Leland, the manly Powers, and the honest Cooper blood runs in my veins. And, when I see this vast multitude, the product of this small town, I feel proud of you all, that you have obeyed the first and great command of the Bible, "Multiply and replenish the earth."

THE PRESIDENT.—I have the pleasure of introducing to this audience a descendant of Moses Whipple, “the father of the town,”—THOMAS WHIPPLE, Esq., of Charlestown, who can speak for himself.

Mr. Whipple said :

Mr. President :

One hundred years ago, Seth Chase and his companion stood gazing for the first time upon the same magnificent scenery which surrounds us to-day. The grand outlines are the same, but civilization has wrought changes in the details. When they turned their eyes to the east there stood before them Pine Hill, not as now rough and jagged, but covered all over with tall pines gracefully waving their beautiful branches in the breeze ; at their feet lay two miniature lakes reflecting the beams of the rising sun, while at the west loomed up Croydon Mountain. Nature had spread out all around them only beauty and grandeur, yet how sad and lonely must have been their condition. They were alone. No human voice to cheer, or heart to sympathize with them. All around them was a dark, howling wilderness. Fifteen days after, as we may well conceive, most gladly did they welcome Moses Whipple and David Warren, who arrived with their families.

It has been my good fortune from my earliest boyhood to be much with the early settlers of this town, and listen to their conversations,—and hence, had I time I could relate many a thrilling or amusing incident connected with the early history of the town. I could tell you something of the grief that wrung our mothers’ hearts when Capt. Moses Whipple was called to lead away to the war so many of

their husbands and sons, and with what ecstasy their return was hailed.

My time will permit me to relate only one or two incidents; and first, I will tell you about a *boat-ride* to which an inhabitant of this town was once treated. Having refused to pay his taxes, and secreted his property, the collector went with his posse to arrest him. Armed with a loaded gun he defiantly threatened with death any one who should attempt the arrest. Dea. Whipple calmly remarking that he was as well prepared to die as any one of the party, sprang upon and disarmed him. He was placed upon horse-back, to be taken to prison, but he rolled himself off as fast as he was put on the rude saddle. The patience of the party becoming exhausted, they improvised a stout stone boat, to which he was firmly bound. A spirited horse was attached to the boat. The collector mounted another, and started for Charlestown jail. Ordinary boat-rides often produce seasickness, and the track here led over rocks, stumps, and the roots and trunks of fallen trees, which were not very carefully avoided; but he braced himself against all sensations of the kind. Voyagers across the Atlantic to the North American coast are delighted, especially in winter, on approaching the Gulf Stream. The warmth of the water, and the balmy softness of the atmosphere are peculiarly agreeable. But when our hero approached a gulf in the south part of the town, through which ran an unbridged stream, he shrank back, beat up a parley, paid the tax and costs, and returned a sadder and a wiser, if not a better man. The effect was most salutary; and it was long before another, having the pecuniary ability, refused or neglected to pay taxes with which he was legally assessed.

And now let me tell you another story of how a husband was *made well* and a wife *made sick*. The main wheel to the mill first erected in the town became deranged, and no one could be found to put it in order except the person that built it. Lame and almost helpless, he was carried to the wheel-pit, where by accident he was precipitated into the icy cold water. The suddenness of the immersion, and his efforts to escape from the unwelcome bath, completely cured him for the time. The necessary repairs were made, and he walked homeward. His wife seeing him approach, and imagining that he was killed and that she saw his apparition, was overcome by the emotion and confined to her bed, while the husband resumed his former labors.

Your President has alluded to the fact that I am a descendant of Moses Whipple. You will indulge me in a few words in relation to him. He was a proprietor and one of the earliest settlers of the town. He descended in the fifth generation from Matthew Whipple, who settled at Ipswich hamlet, Mass., in 1635. He was born in 1733. His early advantages for education were quite limited. He was by occupation a mill-wright and surveyor of land. In 1762, he was appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts an officer in the militia "in the regiment whereof Artemus Ward was Colonel." At the organization of the militia of Croydon in 1774, he was chosen Captain and commissioned by John Wentworth, the last colonial governor of the Province. The next year he was appointed to the same office by Matthew Thornton, President of the Congress of New Hampshire. He was a representative to one of the early Conventions held at Exeter, and for several years elected to the State Legislature. When the soldiers of





J. H. Bufford's Lith. Boston.

Samuel P. Cooper.

1777 marched to the war from this town, he commanded a company composed mainly of men of gigantic stature, and many of them of herculian strength. Without tents, and destitute of baggage-wagons, they carried their arms, equipments and provisions across the Green Mountains on their backs. When the militia was re-organized at the close of the war, he was appointed Colonel of the 15th Regiment. In 1786 he was appointed one of the "Conservators of the Peace" to quell the insurrectionary spirit which had surrounded our Legislature with an armed mob, and threatened the State with anarchy and ruin. In 1814, a year memorable for the success of the American arms in the second war for independence, he was gathered to the tomb "like a shock of corn fully ripe."

Catherine Forbush early became the wife of Moses Whipple, and shared with him all the toils and privations of the early settlement. The next summer after their arrival, she called all the children to her house and established a school, which she continued for a long time without money and without price, and laid the foundation on which the old schoolmasters, Stephen Powers, Martin Griswold, and Eleazer Jackson built; and on which others of a later day have reared a superstructure so eminent for usefulness. The mother of fourteen children, she died in 1829.

THE PRESIDENT. You will now listen to a farmer, and a descendant of the honest Coopers—the Hon. LEMUEL P. COOPER, of Croydon, in whom it is to be presumed all the virtues of his ancestors "still live."

Mr Cooper said :

Ladies and Gentlemen :

I am unexpectedly called upon to speak a word for the

"Cooper Family," and also a word for the farmers of Croydon. As regards the race whose name I bear, a very few words will suffice. Since their first landing in this country to the present time, I think their record stands second to none for honesty and integrity of purpose. Esteeming others more highly than themselves they have never been aspiring. Being religiously inclined, they have ever labored to sustain the institutions of the gospel, and to promote the well-being of the community in which they have resided. My father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, and perhaps still further back, were deacons in the Congregational Church, and so far as I have been able to learn, they have all been men of good reputation and ornaments to their professions. My father, grandfather and uncles were among the early emigrants to this town, and shared largely in the hardships and perils of the early settlement. They are all gathered to their fathers. It is a pleasing reflection that they were numbered with that noble band, who, periling their lives, marched shoulder to shoulder against the common enemy during the Revolutionary struggle. Few can review their family records with less fear of shame or more just pride and satisfaction than the Coopers. They have all acted well their parts in life. Thus much for the Coopers.

You will now indulge me in a word in relation to the farmers. I believe if there is any man since King David after God's own heart, it is the honest, steady, persevering farmer. For fifty years in succession I have been laboring on a farm, and gaining my bread by the sweat of my brow. I know something of its operations, but nothing of its hardships when compared with the pioneers of the town. I am filled with astonishment when I reflect upon the vast amount

of labor performed by our fathers during the first half century. Their farms were covered with a heavy growth of trees; the soil was hard and forbidding; their implements were few and rudely made; and their resources small, save their own strong and persevering wills and their resolute and contented wives. During that time, houses were erected; the trees disappear; the stones are rolled up into fences; roads are made; bridges are thrown across the streams; school-houses are built; churches are erected; a minister is settled—and what is more, is paid; and large families are raised and educated. In short the “wilderness is made to bud and blossom like the rose.” And while the father and older sons were doing this, the mother and daughters were in-doors manufacturing with their own hands the fabrics wherewith to clothe the household. There was then no Lowell or Manchester with their mammoth factories throwing off their thousands of yards a day. I remember the process—the carding, the spinning, the twisting, the reeling, the sizing, the bucking, the spooling, the sleiding, the drawing in, and the quilling. Then the mother takes the loom-seat, and throwing the shuttle alternately with one hand and catching it with the other, swinging the lathe with the liberated hand, and springing the treadles with her feet, and thus she rolled up from five to twenty yards a day; and thus was wool and flax and tow converted into cloth for our fathers. It was a labor honorable to our sainted mothers. Poorly can the young of our day appreciate their labors and sacrifices, and how much our fathers and mothers have done to promote their comfort and happiness. Honorable mention might be made of many prominent and enterprising farmers that have passed away since my recollection. The Whipples,

the Wheelers, the Stows, the Jacobses, the Putnams, the Ryders, the Powerses, the Bartons, the Humphreys, and others equally worthy.

One or two instances will serve to give us an insight into the actual life of the first settlers.

I see before me the descendants of a couple that early commenced life here. They had but just purchased them a farm and cleared up a small portion of land, when by accident the husband was disabled. He lingered a helpless man for three years, and then died. And now what shall the wife with a sick husband, five small children, an unsubdued farm, and no apparent means of subsistence do? What but call upon public charity or her friends for help? She did no such thing. While the larger children took care of the smaller ones she plied herself to her loom with an assiduity which enabled her not only to furnish medicine and advice to her husband, but to feed, clothe and educate her children. Those boys grew to manhood, and were among our most worthy and skillful farmers. That farm remained in their hands for more than sixty years. And the name of the heroine, "grandmarm" Sanger, deserves to be cherished among the dearest household words.

Mrs. Fisher, another of the early matrons of the town, while her husband—who was necessarily much away laboring to procure the means of subsistence—was gone, would tie one child in the chair, while with her infant on the one arm, and her milk-pail on the other, she would wend her way through the woods to her cow,—a mile off in the nearest grass plot,—milk it, and recrossing Sugar River (then a bold and rapid stream) on a log, hasten back to her child.

One more, Peter Powers, not yet twenty-one years of age,





J. H. Buffard's Lith. Boston.

Moses Humphrey

purchased his time, and was married to Lois Cooper, a lady still younger than himself. An axe, a spinning-wheel and a loom constituted their capital stock. At the end of twenty-five years they had cleared up three hundred acres of land, and covered it with luxuriant grass, waving grain, and bleating herds. They had erected three houses, two mills, a number of barns and other buildings,—and what is more, had reared and most thoroughly educated a family of six children.

But I must not dwell longer upon these reminiscences of the past. As I close, let us all remember how truly and wisely it has been said, “He that maketh two blades of grass to grow where but one grew before, is a benefactor of his race.”

THE PRESIDENT. We have been listening to the sons of Croydon. I propose that we now listen to one of the sons-in-law. I perceive we have among us an honored guest who was so unfortunate as *not* to be born in town, but who, nevertheless, has made the best amends he could by taking a wife who *was*. You will listen to the Hon. MOSES HUMPHREY, Ex-Mayor of Concord.

Mr. Humphrey said :

Mr. President, and Citizens of Croydon :

It is with pleasure that I meet with you on this occasion. This anniversary does not come often, and hence, when it does occur, it is all the more pleasant for us to meet together and recall past scenes and renew old acquaintances. In response to the sentiment with which your President saw fit to introduce me, I would say, I am happy to acknowledge myself largely indebted to the influence and advice of one

of your girls, who has shared with me the joys and trials of life for thirty-four years. Let me say to you, sir, that my success in life is in a great measure due to the good practical common sense and right influence which has come to me through my wife, who is a native of this good old town of Croydon. In 1843 I became a citizen of this place, and remained with you nine years. Coming from the old Plymouth Colony, down on the seaboard, I found your ways and habits widely different from those to which I had been accustomed. I found here a farming community. The one which I left had but little of agriculture—there the people were mainly engaged in commercial and mechanical pursuits. I am greatly indebted to you for many valuable hints which I received while here and which have been of great advantage to me in the various positions of trust and honor to which I have been called since I left you. Another thing which perhaps served still more strongly to attach me to this place, was the fact that then, as now and all along, our political views have been in perfect harmony. In conclusion, let me thank you for the opportunity of being with you on this pleasant occasion. The remembrance of this day I shall carry with me to my grave.

THE PRESIDENT.—I think that we ought not to proceed further this afternoon without the “benefit of clergy.” I now call upon one to whose voice we all listen with pleasure, a native of this town, and whose presence we are glad to welcome here—Rev. LUTHER J. FLETCHER, of Maine.

Mr. Fletcher said :

Our brothers and sisters, who have remained upon the soil where we all sported in childhood, but from which many



Truly yours,
L. J. Fletcher.



of us have been induced to wander, have invited us all home again, that we may join them in congratulations to the dear old Mother, who observes to-day her *diamond wedding*. Their invitations we heard from afar ; and with long-cherished fondness for the place which gave us birth, with brotherly and sisterly affection for those who sent us such friendly greetings, we gather here from the North and the South, the East and the West, on the spot where the first settlers wedded the bride of their choice, to deposit our gifts and speak our rejoicings.

I am sorry that Croydon receives us to-day with tears in her eyes ;* but aged mothers do this, sometimes, when as their sons and daughters come home after a long absence, their hearts overflow with gladness, and they weep for joy. There is something of sadness in such a welcome, yet none the less of love. Let us therefore accept these tears as the best welcome which, under the circumstances, we could expect, and only hope that when, a hundred years from this, we come to her second Centennial, the good mother will give us nothing but smiles.

I repeat that we have come to exchange the expressions of an exalted friendship. That is most exalted which is most pure, and the friendships formed in youth are the purest and most lasting of any we enjoy or exercise, in this life. That they are lasting, we have, to-day, many demonstrations. Such friendships have lived, while we have been unconscious of their presence in the heart, and though thrust aside for a time, into some obscure corner, and almost forgotten, they have been awakened by the power of association and made to act with such force as to sway all

*When the speech was made, the sky was overcast, and it began to rain.

the purposes of the soul. We have met with those, this morning, very dear to us in childhood or youth, but who, because of long absence, had not been present to our thoughts for many years ; yet our love for them had not expired, but only waited to be called into action, when we found it as fresh, warm and gushing as in auld Lang Syne.

This is a day of unusual re-awakenings, and as the past gives back to us its treasures of long forgotten scenes, we are rejuvenated and live once more in the long ago. O, how the sight of a familiar face,—changed, indeed, by twenty or thirty years, yet still familiar,—or the sound of a voice unlike any other we have heard for a quarter of a century, has this day taken us back to the scenes of our childhood, and flooded the soul with sweet remembrances ! There is one who was our schoolmate ! How many times have we striven together for the head of the class ! How many days, sitting side by side in the old red school-house, have we conspired to elude the vigilance of the teacher, and cheat him of a part of the study he had required of us, little thinking that we were only cheating ourselves ! How we coasted, skated, fished and swam together, from year to year ! He is not the boy he then was. A young man at his side calls him *father*. Can it be possible ? And have we changed, in his sight, as he in ours ?

Ah ! there is one, who was a young man when I was a boy. Many a time I listened to his voice as he sang with my father,—now a member of the choir above,—and though he has exchanged the red roses of blooming cheeks for the white lilies of age, his countenance bears its familiar expression, and his smile is the same as it was full thirty years ago ! How many scenes are revived by that smile ! How

many faces appear in the halls of memory, summoned from the obscurity in which they have long been hanging, by the presence of that well-remembered face! Welcome, welcome, old friends!

Shadowy as are many of your forms and faces, unsubstantial as is the vision in which ye seem to rise before me, I bid you all welcome to this grand festival—this renewal of old friendships—this first Centennial of our native town!

And may we not believe that those whom memory does not recall—those who lived here before the days of our earliest years, the first settlers in this beautiful valley—are with us here to-day, though we see them not, smiling upon the achievements of a century, more fully apparent to them than to us, and happy in the thought, that like Old Mortality, we, their descendants, are relettering their tombstones, and helping by these ceremonies to give their name and fame to another hundred years? If it be so, then happy are those who, standing in the presence of assembled generations, can feel that by noble efforts and virtuous lives, they command the benedictions of their honored sires.

But Croydon is, to-day, impartial in her favors to those who call her mother. Her invitation went forth to all her children, and those who came home at her call are cordially welcome. She does not ask if all are equally worthy. She does not admit us to seats of exaltation determined by the measure of our intellect, or by our past good deeds. She does not inquire if we be orthodox or heterodox, rich or poor, democrats or republicans. It is enough, if at our birth we were sealed as her children. Some may have been indolent, some unfortunate, some prodigals; but the dear old mother welcomes all to-day as her sons and daughters, and the tears

she may have shed for our past misdeeds are all forgotten in the joy that we have kept her in fond remembrance, and at her call have all come home again.

Oh, happy, suggestive thought ! We have all been wanderers from the home of youthful purity—from a higher and diviner Parent than is the mother of whom I have been speaking ; and when the cycle of His century shall be complete, and the jubilee of redemption shall come, will not his impartial grace extend invitations to all his children, and as the prodigals obey the summons and hasten home, will *He* not bid them welcome, and in the joy of their return, remember their misdeeds no more forever ?

For such a consummation let us both hope and pray ; and in joyous anticipation of a universal re-union, cherish the memory of all our loved ones in the earth, that the joy of our meeting in the spirit-land shall be enhanced by our enlarged and ever-growing affection for each other in the present life.

As I have looked on the assemblage of the sons and daughters of Croydon, and have felt the power of an unseen influence attaching me to this place of my birth, as to no other spot on earth, the question has more than once arisen in my mind touching the cause of the sweet attraction, and just now the satisfactory answer comes to me. It is not that Croydon is a town remarkable for its beautiful scenery, classic grounds or famous institutions,—not that her fields are richer, or her children nobler than those of other towns in the dear old Granite State, but chiefly, as it seems to me, *because this was our cradle*—the place in which we first knew the blessing of parental love—in which, beneath the fond nursings and unremitted watchfulness of father and

mother, we made our first essays in observation, opened our eyes to behold the light of surrounding objects, and commenced the development of our infant powers—the place where our feeble thoughts were first turned towards God, and in which with little hands clasped and eyes uplifted, we were taught to say our infant prayers.

There are no thoughts of a whole life so sacred as those which go back to such beginnings, and they hallow every thing associated with them. In our manhood and womanhood we sometimes overhaul the rubbish of our father's back-chamber or the attic, until we come upon the cradle in which we were rocked. It may be old-fashioned and out of repair ; it may be covered with dust and cobwebs ; the smoke of the old kitchen may be seen upon its paint ; and its rockers, by much use, be worn almost flat ; but the sight of it awakens fond and sacred recollections, and as we bring it out into the light and sit down to gaze upon it, sweet words and loved faces are given us from the past, the song of the mother's *hushaby* is in our ears again, and that old cradle, not for what it is, but for what it has been to us, is the dearest thing on earth. So, in a certain sense, is this old town to those who were born here. It is not in any sense a splendid place. It has not been extensively modernized. The dust of old usages clings to it, and some who are being cradled here may think that it rocks hard ; yet the sight of it brings back the days of our earliest recollections, and we love it because it is our cradle.

Imagination may have an undue influence in the processes of my mind at the present time, but it seems to me that all around us, floating on the breath of this June morning, and echoing on these hills, are the words of her, now singing

with the angels,—words which we have sung to our own children, or taught them as their evening prayer—

“Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber,
Holy angels guard thy bed,”

or :

“Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.”

I believe there is a saving power in the associations which flood the soul with such memories,—and let me say, in conclusion, that those of us who carry the most of the spirit of this hour into the days and years of our future lives in the earth, will best do justice to the past, and honor our native town in years to come.

God bless the dear old cradle of our infancy ! May holy angels watch its future destiny from the summits of the surrounding mountain towers, that it may be beautiful, honorable, prosperous, when, in spirit if not in flesh, we assemble here again at the end of another hundred years !

THE PRESIDENT.—We have present a guest from the queen city of New England, and a son of Benjamin Barton, junior, who I trust will give us some account of the Barton family and their early adventures. You will hear ALEXANDER BARTON, ESQ., of Boston.

Mr. Barton said :

Mr. President, Gentlemen and Ladies :

Under other circumstances I should ask to be excused, but as you ask me to respond in behalf of the descendants of Benjamin Barton, I will do so as briefly as I may. My grandfather Benjamin Barton, senior, lived at Sutton, Mass., entered the army of the Revolution, and died at Bunker Hill.



Alexth Barton



My father Benjamin Barton, Jr., was born at Sutton, Mass., in 1755. He had few early advantages, no opportunity for schooling ; learned to write and cipher on birch bark. At the age of eighteen he entered the Revolutionary army and was at Bunker Hill, Bennington, West Point and New York city. In 1779 he returned to Royalston, Mass., and married Mehitable Fry. The next year he went to Newbury, Vt., to look for a new home. After a vain search of three weeks, traveling by the aid of marked trees, he returned as far as Croydon, and here purchased him a farm. In 1783, he spent six weeks clearing up the land and making preparations for a settlement, with a hollow log only for a shelter, and bears and wolves for his nearest and most numerous, if not most intimate neighbors. In March, 1784, they started for their wilderness-home. Behold the picture ! A young wife, who had been as tenderly reared as any of her day, seated on an ox sled, her three children with her,—on the one side, a daughter of four years, on the other, a lad of two, and in her arms an infant son ; on that sled were all their household effects, and behind was tied the cow. After surmounting many difficulties they arrived at Unity. Here the roads were so drifted that they were obliged to make a change and harness their oxen tandem. They arrived at Croydon on the ninth day, accomplishing a journey of sixty-five miles.

They had occupied their log cabin but a short time, when a rude storm scattered the bark, of which the roof was composed, to the four winds and obliged them, through snow waist deep, with their children in their arms, to seek shelter in a neighboring cabin three-fourths of a mile away.

My father commenced public life in 1786, two years after

his arrival. He was elected Representative a number of years, was Selectman some twenty, Moderator and Town Clerk a great number, and was Justice of the Peace from 1798 to the period of his death which occurred July 9, 1834.

CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN BARTON.—Phebe born Apr. 21, 1780. Benj. born Feb. 22, 1782. John born Feb. 17, 1784. Peter born May 17, 1785. Ruth born Aug. 6, 1788. Fry born Oct. 30, 1790. Susan born Sept. 16, 1792. Phila born Aug. 17, 1794. Cyrus born Dec. 25, 1795. David born March 23, 1800. Reuben born June 5, 1802. Alexander born June 14, 1804.

THE PRESIDENT.—The name of Rev. Jacob Haven will be known and revered while these hills and valleys are inhabited. For half a century he did not fail to speak the words of truth and soberness to this people. His voice is now silent, but you will be glad to listen to his son, Capt. MOSES HAVEN, of Plainfield.

Mr. Haven responded :

Mr. President :

No spot on earth is so dear to man as the place where he was born and where were spent the hours of his infancy and childhood. In common with you all, ladies and gentlemen, I partake most fully of this sentiment to-day. Here were spent the hours of my boyhood. These hills witnessed my childish sports and pleasures. These fields and meadows and ponds and mountains, seem almost my brothers.

It was here that, at the age of sixteen, I entered the militia and was shortly after elected sergeant, and by regular gradations rose to be Captain, and thought I had achieved wonders. When I was chosen chorister, a position which I held for a long time, I felt greatly honored; and when by the partiality of my fellow-townsmen I was elected one of the selectmen of the town, I felt I had reached almost the last round in the ladder of my ambition.

These achievements in the eyes of the world may not seem much, but to my young fancy it was far otherwise. Since then I have been out into the world doing battle with the stern duties of maturer life, until the weight of years now presses heavily upon me ; and yet, I must say, no after achievements have afforded me a pleasure like these. I have mingled in no other scenes so sweet, have found no other spot so dear.

Around yonder hill, in the grave-yard, rests my reverend and venerated father, that sainted mother who dandled me in my infancy, two loved companions and many other cherished friends. It is a dear spot to me. And there, beside them, I have directed shall be my last earthly resting place.

I now close by thanking God that I have been permitted to live until this day, so that I may meet so many of my old companions, and mingle in these joyous scenes.

KEENE, Aug. 24th, 1866.

DEAR BROTHER :—If, as you suggest, the Committee of Arrangements, who carried through the Croydon Centennial Celebration so successfully, desire to have the fragments of our Feast gathered up for preservation, I can see no objection to it. And I will furnish a sketch of what was said by me in the opening. But the whole loaves should be saved, as well as what remains of those distributed. And the speeches prepared by Dr. Whipple and yourself, and perhaps others,—but not delivered on account of the inclemency of the day,—should be included, as well as the portions omitted by other speakers for the same reason. I shall set the example by sending what was said and what was omitted, at the outset.

Very truly yours,

WM. P. WHEELER.

In accordance with the foregoing suggestion from the President of the day, and at the request of the Committee of Arrangements, I insert the following speeches:

SPEECH OF JOHN COOPER, ESQ., OF CROYDON.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen :

Allusion in flattering terms has been made to my poor efforts to rescue from oblivion the names, labors, and characters of some of the first settlers of Croydon. What I have done in that direction, has brought its own reward with it ; for it has afforded me much pleasure to collect the facts respecting your ancestors and mine. I venerate the memories of those men and women who were the pioneers of civilization in this town ; and the better I have become acquainted with their history, the more I have admired their courage in leaving the older settlements of Massachusetts and coming to this place—then a howling wilderness—for the purpose of providing for themselves “a local habitation and a name.” Their children and their children’s children should, on this commemorative occasion, rise up and bless their memories. But I will leave it to others older than myself, to eulogize the Whipples, Powerses, Lelands, Halls, Bartons, Wheelers, Havens, and others who came to this town nearly one hundred years ago, while I confine myself to a few brief remarks concerning *my paternal grandfather*, one of the early settlers of this town.

Deacon John Cooper was born in 1725 ; he married Mary Sherman, of Grafton, Mass., in 1748, and the same year settled in Hardwick, Mass. While living there he divided his time between the cultivation of a farm and teaching the “town school.” During the “French and Indian War,”

from 1754 to 1763, he was also engaged largely in supplying the English and Provincial troops with beef. In 1769 he removed to Cornish, N. H., and the year following he came to this place—four years only after the first settlement of the town. His locating here added but little to the material wealth of the place (for he was a man of a broken fortune), but he brought with him what was of more value than money, namely, an intelligent and energetic wife and eight healthy children. He settled on a spot within sight of this stand, where Otis Cooper, Esq., one of his lineal descendants, now resides. There he lived ; and there, in 1805, he closed his earthly labors at the ripe age of eighty years. His remains now rest in the “Old Burial Ground on the Hill.”

Tradition does not represent the character of Dea. Cooper as perfectly well-balanced. He did not possess that courage—that backbone, necessary to face danger of every kind without flinching. But he was distinguished for honesty, sobriety, love of order, and for full an average share of common sense. As far as energy and decision of character were concerned, his wife was the better man of the two. But still his abilities were considered above the general level, as the early records will show ; for he was chosen repeatedly Town Clerk, and was often elected one of the selectmen, and several times chairman of the board.

He ruled his own house well, and was in other respects peculiarly fitted for the office of *deacon*. He held that office forty-seven years—twenty years in Hardwick, and twenty-seven years in this town. It is the concurrent testimony of tradition that Dea. John Cooper was a faithful and an efficient church officer.

In conclusion, I will add that, in consequence of his chil-

dren's intermarrying with the families around them, the Cooper blood has become so intermingled with that of almost every other name, that standing here to-day and looking at the vast concourse before me, I can claim you all as cousins.

SPEECH OF S. M. WHIPPLE, M. D., OF NEW LONDON.

Mr. President :

It is with mingled feelings of diffidence and confidence, that I present myself before you on this joyous occasion to respond in behalf of the medical profession. It is with diffidence when I recollect that the practice of medicine does not require the possession, or exercise, of those powers of eloquence which can arrest the attention of a large audience and hold them spell-bound at will, and hence I might fail to interest you; but, on the other hand, it is with confidence when I feel that we have all gathered around this old family altar, not to criticise, but to exchange friendly greetings, and be happy, and hence that any voice is welcome, if only it be the voice of a son, or daughter of Croydon.

From the first attempts to heal diseases, Medicine began to exist as a profession. From the earliest antiquity it will compare most favorably with the other professions. Aristotle, Lock, Hartley, Mackintosh and Brown—all standing high on the roll of fame—were all physicians.

It may not be inappropriate on this occasion to refer a moment to the profession as it has existed in this town. Tradition says that during the first third of a century, Croydon had no regular bred physician, and that the practice of medicine was almost entirely in the hands of females. Originally, and for many years it was given to Mrs. Phineas



Lith. of J. H. Bufford, Boston

Truly yours
S. M. Whipple.



Sanger "to heal diseases and minister to the distressed." And then came Mrs. Sarah Powers, wife of Amos Hagar, a woman of uncommon intellectual and physical powers. That she had some *weight* in town is sufficiently evinced by the fact that she could make a scale of three hundred and fifty pounds avoirdupoise, honest weight, kick the beam. On her favorite steed she promptly answered all calls in storms, in winter, and by night. True she was less skilled in the books than the Crosbys and the Peaslees of to-day, yet her strong common sense and ready judgment seldom failed to do the right thing in the right way.

First among the trained physicians—for I am old enough to recollect him in his more advanced years—comes the plain straight forward, practical Carroll, who, riding over these hills, with his saddle-bags, on horseback, was a most welcome visitor in every sick room. And I have not forgotten the sad accident—the upsetting of his carriage on yonder hill—which ended his life. And I remember the more learned Gustin that followed him—and Alden, and Cooper, and Leavitt, and Coburn, and Hall. Of Marsh and Barton, now here, I need not speak, for you all know them better than I do.

Croydon has contributed more men to medicine than to either of the other learned professions. Few towns in the State have furnished comparatively so many eminent and skillful physicians and so few quacks as this. Her Coopers, her Wheelers, her Gibsons and her Powerses, in their professional acquirements, rank deservedly high. And hence it is that wherever they go you will find them enjoying the confidence and esteem of the community in which they reside. Sir, I am proud of the medical profession, and I am proud of the success that has attended those sons of Croydon who have devoted themselves to so noble a calling.

SPEECH OF EDMUND WHEELER, OF NEWPORT.

Mr. President :

I am happy to respond in behalf of the mechanics of Croydon. I have always regarded the mechanic arts as among the most useful and honorable occupations of man. I have long regarded Franklin and Fulton and Morse, men who first harnessed the steam power and the lightning, and others like them, as among the greatest benefactors of our race.

Well do I remember the names and faces of those mechanics who flourished here some half century ago—the Kemptons, the Humphrys, the Eastmans, the Fletchers, the Dodges and others. To-day I almost hear these hills echoing back the hearty ring of their hammers, their lap-stones and their anvils.

We do not often consider how very much we are indebted to the mechanic for all the ordinary blessings and luxuries of life. For example, how very much it would detract from the dignity and elegance of this vast audience were we to take away from them the handiwork of the milliner, the dressmaker and the tailor, and carry them back to the primitive days when fig-leaves only were worn in Eden. Nor are these outward adornings, charming though they be, all we owe the mechanic—but the tables around which we gather, the chairs in which we sit, the beds on which we sleep, the beautiful carriages in which we ride, and the grand old mansions which shelter our heads, and around which cluster so many thousand sweet memories, are also the work of his hand.

Take away from the farmer his hoe, his shovel, his axe, his plow, and his cart, and you have robbed him of his strength and paralyzed his labors.

Take away from the clergyman, the lawyer, and the physician those immense libraries of their's in which are garnered up all the wisdom of ages, and their light would be comparative darkness—they would be no longer the *learned* professions they now are.

Look also at the telegraph and the steam-press. That thought of the philosopher which otherwise would have fallen almost still-born from his lips, or hardly have reached beyond the sound of his own voice, is seized upon by the telegraph and the steam-press and in twenty-four hours is giving joy and blessings to a million homes all over the land. Yes, the press, that mighty engine of power, invented and wielded by the mechanic, has gathered up the choice works of art, science, poetry, history, literature, and above all of inspiration, and multiplied them a million fold and scattered them abroad until the whole earth is literally flooded with light.

I might also point you to the mammoth factories which he has erected, and filled with machinery almost endowed with intelligence, and which are throwing off their thousand varied products for the benefit of man. But why need I stop to enumerate?

As on the land so also on the water: It is with his leave that the navies of the world are to-day so proudly walking the ocean; and it is by his permission that commerce spreads her white wings and carries her countless treasures all over the world.

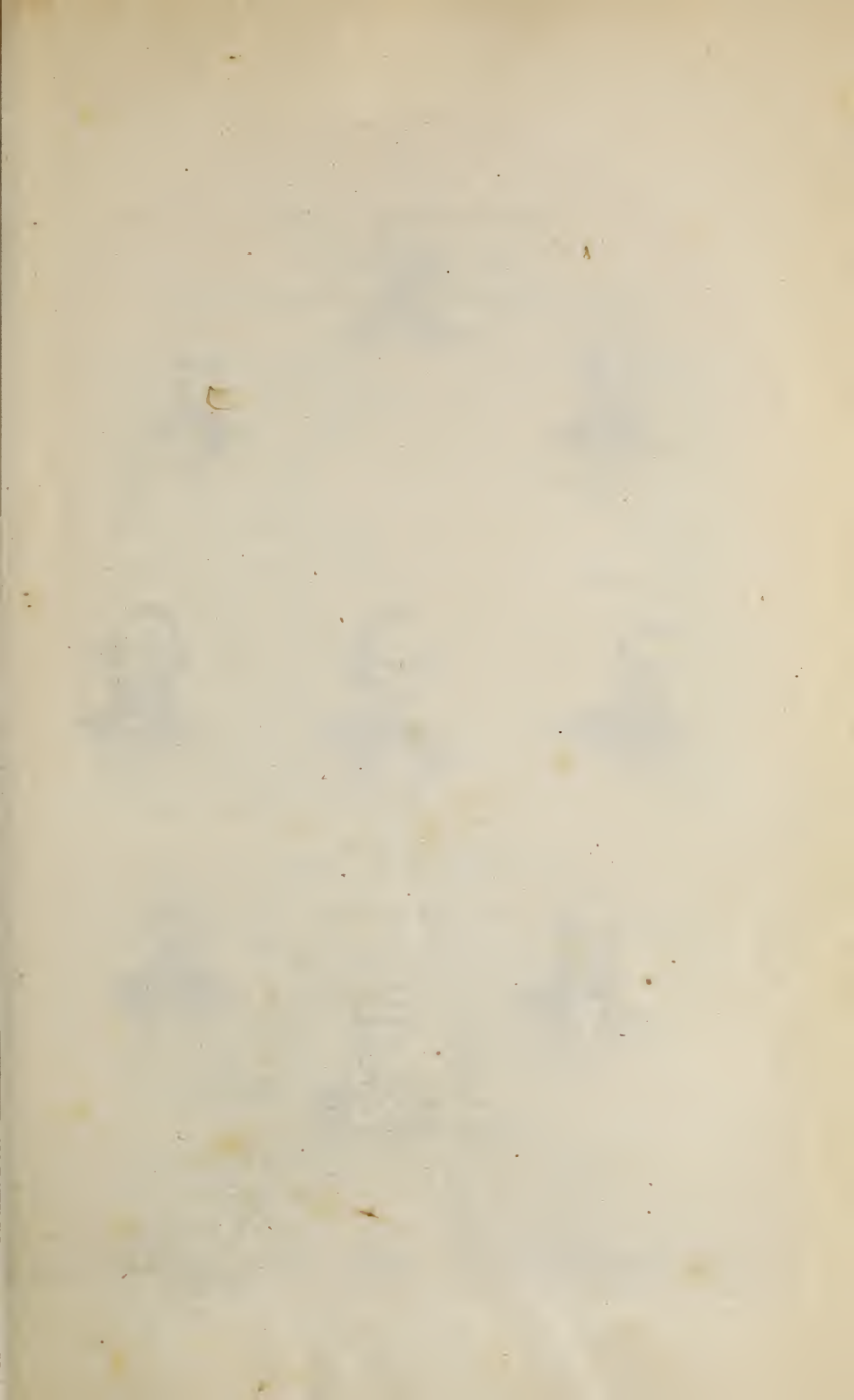
But I need utter no language in commendation of the mechanic. His glory is proclaimed not by spoken words, but in the proud monuments of his skill and industry everywhere around us.

As I close, allow me to say that those sons of Croydon who have devoted themselves to the mechanic arts, have done their full share towards maintaining the honor of their native town.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Orator, the President, the Band, the Glee Club, and all others who had aided in the celebration.

The audience then all rose and united in singing Old Hundred.

Three cheers were then given for the Old Century, three for the New, three for the Ladies, and three for the Country. After which a vote to adjourn to June 13, 1966, was unanimously carried amid the wildest acclamation.





C. K. FLETCHER.
R. COOPER.
D. HUMPHREY.

O. COOPER.
D. RIDER.
E. POWERS.

D. HALL.
B. C. WHIPPLE.
J. COOPER.

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HON. WILLIAM P. WHEELER, of Keene.

Vice-Presidents,

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LEVI W. BARTON, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Newport.
ADOLPHUS HALL, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Grantham.
CALVIN HALL, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Lowell, Mass.
Capt. ARIAL HALL,	-	-	-	-	Williamstown, Vt.
Hon. ORRA CROSBY,	-	-	-	-	Hardwick, Vt.
FREEMAN CUTTING, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Claremont.
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ELOM MARSH, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Westmoreland.
RUEL DURKEE, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Croydon.
SAMUEL BLANCHARD, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Croydon.
WM. E. MELENDY, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Springfield.
ELIJAH G. RYDER, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Sunapee.
Capt. MOSES HAVEN,	-	-	-	-	Plainfield.
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HIRAM SMART, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Nashua.
JONAS C. KEMPTON, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Nashua.
WARREN M. KEMPTON, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	Concord.

Chief Marshal,

CAPT. NATHAN HALL.

Assistant Marshals,WILLIAM W. RYDER, MARTIN A. BARTON, Esqs.,
Major DEXTER G. REED.**Committee of Arrangements,**

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REUBEN COOPER,	CYRUS K. FLETCHER,
CAPT. DANIEL R. HALL,	JOHN COOPER,
DANIEL RYDER, Esq.,	NATHAN HALL.
CAPT. WORTHEN HALL,	

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MRS. OREAN LOVERIN,	MRS. WM. RYDER,
MRS. INGALLS HEATH,	MRS. E. DARWIN COMMINGS,
MRS. REUBEN COOPER,	MRS. JAS. BOYCE,
MRS. NATHAN HALL,	MISS THANKFUL RYDER,
MRS. JOHN HURD,	MISS ANGENETTA HARDING,
MRS. DANIEL IDE,	MRS. GILMAN STOCKWELL.

PERSONAL SKETCHES.

The following pages contain brief sketches of the former and present families of Croydon, arranged in alphabetical order. They have been made as full as the data at hand and the room at our disposal permits.

AMES.

JACOB AMES and SIMON AMES settled on farms on the north-east slope of the Pinnacle. The former had previously been a saddler, at which occupation he had amassed quite a handsome little fortune. He married Sally, daughter of Darius Hall, and died at Newport, leaving a large family.

Rev. JACOB WORTHEN HALL AMES, son of Jacob Ames, was born May 7, 1838, and died at Middletown, Ct., June 12, 1866. He was married July 12, 1864, to Miss Tillie Mathison, of Middletown. He fitted for College at the New Hampshire Conference Seminary, and graduated at the head of his class from Wesleyan University in 1864. He received his first regular appointment in 1864, and was stationed at Berlin, Ct., where he remained one year. He was then transferred to the N. E. Conference and stationed at Chelsea, Mass., and at the end of the year was re-appointed to the same place. On account of ill health he resigned his pastorate in May, and spent some six weeks among his native hills in vain search of health. He survived his return to his family at Middletown but twenty-four hours. As he had been

a favorite at College, his sudden death cast a deep gloom over the place. He was buried with much honor. A most touching tribute,—“Farewell, my Husband”—written by his wife, on the morning of his funeral, was sung in church by Prof. Harrington, and a beautiful Hymn, entitled “Gathered Home,” written by Prof. H. for the occasion, was sung by the students and faculty at the grave. Mr. Ames had been invited to be present and invoke the Divine blessing upon the assembled sons and daughters of his native town at their centennial jubilee, but Providence had ordained it otherwise,—he died on the evening before. His body was quietly sleeping in its shroud in his much loved home, and his spirit was mingling with a nobler and brighter throng above.

ALLEN.

JOHN ALLEN came from Plymouth County, Mass., and from him have descended the Allens.

BARTON.

BAZALEEL BARTON, BENJAMIN BARTON and PETER BARTON, brothers, came to this town during the Revolution, from Sutton, Mass. From these have descended the numerous family in town bearing the name of Barton. As a family they are distinguished for their social qualities.

BAZALEEL BARTON was one of the company that dispersed the Mass. Legislature, then sitting at Worcester, at the commencement of the Revolution. They were away to dinner. He stood at the door, and when they approached in procession, with royal gown and cap—with loaded gun and fixed bayonet bid them defiance.

CARLTON BARTON, only son of Bazaleel, has been a successful teacher, and a man much in public business. He has a clear intellect, and "is a wag when he will."

BENJAMIN BARTON, (see speech of Alexander Barton.)

JOHN BARTON, son of Benjamin, born Feb. 17, 1784, was distinguished for his plain common sense. He kept an extensive stock, a dairy sometimes of fifty cows, was a large land-holder—owned "Croydon Mountain"—and left a family of boys, all industrious farmers. *Acc. at his wife's d. Mon. 24, 1833, she was daughter of John Loverin*

FRY BARTON, son of Benjamin Barton, Esq., married Judith Powers, daughter of Samuel Powers, and removed to Leon, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., where he has been a prominent farmer. He is the father of Ara Barton, a lawyer of fine intellect, at St. Paul, Minnesota.

HON. CYRUS BARTON, son of Benjamin Barton, Esq., was born Dec. 25, 1795. He commenced the "Claremont Spectator," at Claremont, in 1823, but in 1825 removed to Newport and commenced the "New Hampshire Spectator," where he remained until June, 1829, when he removed to Concord and took charge of the N. H. Patriot. He retired for a short time from the editorial chair and was engaged in agriculture at Hopkinton, but in Jan. 1852, returned to Concord and established the "State Capital Reporter," a semi-weekly paper, which he superintended during the remainder of his life. He was Register of Deeds for Sullivan County in 1827 and 1829, and was appointed Aid-de-Camp of Gov. Pierce in 1829; chosen Secretary of the College of Electors of President and Vice President in 1833, and again in 1836 and 1840; elected Senator from District No. 4 in 1833, and

re-elected in 1834; elected Councilor from Rockingham District in 1843; appointed by President Polk, U. S. Marshal for the District of N. H. in 1845; was a member of the Constitutional Convention, and President of the City Council of Concord in 1845. He married Hannah Hale, sister of the late Hon. Salma Hale, of Keene. "He was a man of ability, a ready, pointed and vigorous writer, and exerted a wide influence in the State." He died Feb. 17, 1855, at Loudon, while making a political speech, falling into the arms of his opponent.

GEORGE S. BARTON, son of Hon. Cyrus Barton and grandson of Benjamin, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1851; studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1853. He opened an office at Burlington, Iowa, but the next year returned to Newport. He was Clerk of the Senate in 1855 and 1856. He died July 24, 1857, aged 26 years. He was a superior draftsman, a fine writer and a ready poet.

Capt. ALEXANDER BARTON, son of Benjamin Barton, Esq., was born June 14, 1804. After leaving Croydon he spent a few years at Ludlow, Vt., and from thence removed to Boston, where, immersed in business, has been spent the greater portion of his active life. He is courteous and genial in his intercourse with others, and hence was always quite a favorite. In his earlier days he was much in office. He was Representative from his native town for the years 1836, 1837 and 1843, and was in 1850 a member of the Constitutional Convention of Vermont.

MARTIN A. BARTON, son of Peter, and grandson of Benjamin Barton, was born Aug. 22, 1813. He is a man of

much executive ability. He was formerly engaged in trade, but is now devoted to farming. He has been Representative, Selectman, and for many years Deputy-Sheriff.

PETER BARTON settled on "Winter Hill," east of East Village, and was the father of PETER who went to Ohio, of AMOS and MOSES substantial farmers now living in town, and of AARON who removed to Piermont, N. H., where he has been an honored citizen.

LEVI W. BARTON, son of Bazaleel Barton, 2nd, and grandson of Peter Barton, was born March 1, 1818. The advantages even of our Common Schools were in a great measure beyond his reach until the completion of his eighteenth year. He then prepared himself for a teacher, and for that purpose used his spare hours in study while engaged as a day laborer in the field. He attended for a few terms the Academy in Unity. After attaining his majority he conceived the purpose of obtaining a collegiate education. He pursued his preparatory studies at Kimball Union Academy, and graduated from Dartmouth College in 1848. During his senior year in College, he read law with Hon. Daniel Blaisdell, of Hanover. Immediately after graduating he entered the law office of Jonathan Kittridge, Esq., of Canaan, afterwards Chief Justice of the court of Common Pleas, where he remained till January of 1851, when he came to Newport and finished his preparatory studies with Messrs. Metcalf and Corbin, and was admitted to the bar in July of the same year.

While in Canaan he taught the Academy in that place five terms, in addition to his full course of reading.

Soon after being admitted to the bar he opened an office in Newport, where he has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession. He was Register of Deeds in 1855, 1856 and 1857, and Solicitor of Sullivan County five years, commencing in 1859 ; was Representative from Newport in 1863 and 1864, and a member of the Judiciary Committee—the latter year its chairman. In 1863 he was a candidate for the office of Attorney-general, and in 1866 was chairman of a board of Commissioners appointed by the Governor to audit and report to the Legislature the war indebtedness of the several towns in the State. He was married to Mary Ann Pike, of Newport, in 1839, who died the year following, leaving an infant son five days old, now Lt. Col. I. McL. Barton, late of the N. H. Heavy Artillery, and now a Lieutenant in the regular army. He was again married to Lizzie F. Jewett, of Nashua, in 1852.

WILLIAMS BARTON, M. D., son of Bazaleel Barton 2nd, and grandson of Peter Barton, was born Aug. 6, 1820. He received his literary training at Unity and Kimball Union Academies ; studied medicine with Drs. Coburn, Hall and Nichols ; graduated at the medical department of Dartmouth College in May, 1845, and soon after commenced practice at Croydon, where he still resides. He was often chairman of the Superintending School Committee, and was three years Commissioner of Common Schools for Sullivan County, during which time he was often employed as professor of elocution, in teachers' institutes, in different parts of the State.

BRAGG.

IRA W. BRAGG, son of Ira Bragg, who came from Royals-ton, Mass., was born July 28, 1833. Fitted for college at Meriden and studied medicine with Dr. Perkins, of Marlow, N. H. He attended lectures at Dartmouth and Harvard Colleges, and graduated at the latter institution in 1859. After spending a year in the Marine Hospital at Chelsea, he went to Europe and passed several months in the hospitals of Liverpool and London, endeavoring to still further qualify himself for his profession. Upon his return, after practicing a year at Chelsea, Mass., he was appointed Assistant Surgeon in the Navy; was on board the Minnesota at the time of its fearful engagement with the Merrimac, when the Cumberland went down, and the famous Monitor made its first appearance. He was transferred to the San Jacinto, the flag ship of the East Gulf Blockading Squadron, and was on board her during her pursuit of the Alabama among the West Indies and at South America. He was ordered to the West Gulf Blockading Squadron, and from thence to the Naval Hospital at New Orleans, where, on the twenty-first of October, 1864, worn down by excessive labor and anxiety for the sick, he fell a victim to the yellow fever. In few men were more happily combined rare merit and graceful modesty.

SARAH C. BRAGG, sister of the above, a lady of much literary merit and one of our most accomplished teachers, was born July 3, 1830. She graduated at Meriden with high honors, in the class of 1852. By her own industry and perseverance she defrayed the expenses of her education. After graduating she went to Georgetown, Mass., and taught a year and a half, she then became principal of the Young Ladies High School at Haverhill, Mass., which position she



J. H. Bufford's Lith. Boston.

L. W. Bragg.



occupied most acceptably to all for four years, until her marriage with Seth Littlefield, Jr.

BROWN.

BRIANT BROWN was a social man. He came from Wiliston, Vt., and married Abigail, daughter of Capt. Edward Hall. He resided at the Flat, was Representative in 1827 and 1828, and was more or less engaged in public business. He died Feb. 18, 1854, aged 61 years.

EDWARD BROWN, son of Briant Brown, a worthy farmer and a man of good judgment, was born January, 1818. He has for a long time taken a deep interest in the agricultural affairs of the State and County. In 1866 he was one of the Committee on the State Agricultural College, whose duty it was to report to the Legislature a suitable plan, location and other matters relating to the State College. *He d. Dec. 1891*

Longf. L. d. Apr. 15-1898-38

BLANCHARD.

SAMUEL BLANCHARD, son of Darius Blanchard, was born Sept. 17, 1790. He is a man endowed by nature with uncommon abilities, has much shrewdness and wit, and has been the most successful teacher the town ever produced. Would our limits permit we could relate many an amusing instance of how the ready genius of "Black Sam" has out-generaled and conquered a large, turbulent, and to others ungovernable school, without a blow. He has devoted most of his life to farming.

DARIUS BLANCHARD and JOHN BLANCHARD were among the early settlers of the town. The former settled in the

valley north of C. K. Fletcher's, and the latter on Baltimore Hill.

LESTER BLANCHARD, son of John Blanchard, was born June 17, 1808. He has ever remained on the homestead. He was Representative in 1848 and 1849.

BRECK.

JAMES BRECK, a native of Boston, was for twelve years, from 1804 to 1816, the leading merchant and one of the most influential men in Croydon. While here, he was Selectman five years and Representative four. In 1811, he married Martha Burr, daughter of Capt. Martin Burr, one of the early settlers of the town. They had a large family. Martin B., the oldest son, followed his father's calling. WILLIAM and JAMES, the second and third sons, graduated at Dartmouth College and turned their attention to law. The former, appointed Consul to China, has been, with his lady, for several years enjoying a residence in the "Celestial Empire." The latter settled at Chicago. From this town Mr. Breck removed to Newport, where for a long time he was a leading man in all public enterprises, in trade, in politics and the religious society to which he belonged. He is now living at Rochester, N. Y., and, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, still retains a vivid recollection of his many happy hours at Croydon, the birthplace of his companion and the spot where were first developed those qualities which gave him so marked an influence and laid the foundation of his extensive fortune. In 1861 they had a brilliant *golden wedding*.



James Breck







J. H. Bufford's Lith. Boston

M. B. Brewster

MARTIN B. BRECK, eldest son of James Breck, Esq., was born Oct. 15, 1812. He was educated at the district school and Newport Academy, after which he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits. He remained with his father at Newport until he attained to his majority. He followed his vocation at Croydon, at Newport, and at Boston until 1841, when he removed to Rochester, N. Y., where his operations have been "eminently successful," and where he now lives enjoying all the blessings which affluence can afford. In 1838 he married Mary Faxon, of Newport, who lived but a year and a half. In 1846 he married Miss Susan E. Waters, of Rochester.

MARGARET A. BRECK, daughter of James Breck, Esq., was born April 24, 1814. She was married to H. H. Perkins, Esq., at Newport, in 1837, and removed to St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, where he died in 1850, leaving three children. The eldest daughter married W. D. Webb, an attorney at law at Minneapolis, Minnesota. The son, James Breck Perkins, a member of the senior class in Rochester University, is now traveling in Europe. Mrs. P. is finely educated, has a well balanced mind, and a decided taste for literature.

HENRY BRECK, now eighty-one years of age, was a native of Boston. He came to Croydon in 1807, and was clerk in the store at the Flat, owned by his brothers, William and James. In 1815, he purchased their interest and continued in trade there until 1818, when he removed to Four Corners, where he continued in business until 1837, when he removed to Cornish Flat. On the death of his brother William, in 1848, he removed to Claremont, and settled on the "home-

stead" where he now lives. Mr. Breck took an active part in the erection of the Church at the Four Corners, assuming to himself one-fourth part the entire expense of the edifice. He was an active business man, and held many offices. In 1818, married Keziah Marsh, who died in 1826. In 1828, married Sarah Town, of Grantham.

JOHN T. BRECK, eldest son of Henry Breck, established himself as a merchant at Cornish Flat, in 1841. His integrity and fine business qualities have secured to him a handsome fortune, and an honorable reputation among his neighbors. His is a rare case of success in trade and universal esteem among his neighbors and townsmen. After having been in trade 26 years, he cannot be said to have an enemy. He is a gentleman of fine literary taste and varied attainments. He fitted for college, but on account of a trouble with his eyes, abandoned the idea of a college course, and turned his attention to mercantile pursuits. He retired from business in 1866, and is now living upon a farm in Lebanon.

ROBERT BRECK, the second son of Henry, is an active and successful merchant at Ascutneyville, Vt., where he has been in trade for more than 20 years, and, like his brother John T., has succeeded, by his skill and good judgment, in handsome accumulations, and by his integrity and genial manners in securing the esteem and friendship of all who know him.

HENRY BRECK, Jr., third son of Henry Breck, has been a practical farmer and gardener in the vicinity of Boston for several years, and is well known for his skill in his business, and his integrity and intelligence. He now lives





Wm Brock

at Watertown, Mass., where he has a very fine farming establishment.

WILLIAM BRECK, son of Henry Breck, was born Dec. 17, 1826. At the age of fourteen, he removed with his father to Cornish. At eighteen, he went to Claremont, and was Assistant Postmaster for two years; at the expiration of which time, on account of ill health, he returned to his father's roof at Cornish. At twenty-two, he went into trade with his brother John at Cornish, and continued there four years; at which time, laboring under a severe attack of asthma, he went to California, where he was in active business eight years, when, having regained his health, and won for himself an independent fortune, he returned to New Hampshire, with the intention of passing the remainder of his life in retirement from active business, among his many relatives and friends. He is a gentleman of unquestioned integrity, of most genial disposition and fine social qualities. As a family, the Brecks have been noted for their honesty, integrity and gentlemanly bearing.

*He was rep. 1853. Rep. 1854.
Represented Claremont Nov. 1852. Bre Sullivan Springs 1854.
Died Nov. 10, 1889.*

BRISTOL.

AUGUSTA COOPER BRISTOL, daughter of Col. Otis and Hannah Powers Cooper, was born April 17, 1835. She was early distinguished for a vigorous intellect, great fondness for music, and a passion for poetry and literature. She taught school with decided success from sixteen to twenty-one. She gave much attention to music; and her frequent contributions, both of poetry and prose, to some of the leading journals and magazines of the day, commencing at the

age of fifteen, find many admirers. She was married to Mr. Gustavus F. Kimball, of East Canaan, N. H., in August, 1857, by whom she had one daughter, and from whom she was divorced after four years of wedded life. In January, 1866, she married Louis Bristol, a lawyer, and removed to Carbondale, Ill., where she now resides, and where her time is divided between her domestic duties and a free indulgence in her favorite passion for literature and poetry.

COOPER.

DEA. JOHN COOPER came to this town in 1770, and died in 1805. (See speech of John Cooper, Esq.) From him and his two nephews, EZRA COOPER and SAMUEL COOPER, have descended all those in this vicinity who bear the name of Cooper. John settled on the farm of Col. Otis Cooper, Ezra on the Pinnacle west of the old church, and Samuel east of Spectacle Pond. As a family the Coopers were religiously inclined, and distinguished for honesty.

DEA. SHERMAN COOPER, son of Dea. John and Mary Sherman Cooper, came to this town when he was ten years of age, and six years after shouldered his musket and joined the Revolutionary army. He married Mary Powers, by whom he had ten children, six sons and four daughters. On the death of his father he was chosen deacon of the Congregational Church, which office he held until his death. He was a farmer in moderate circumstances, honest in his deal, benevolent in his disposition, temperate in his habits, and devoted to his religious faith. He was gifted, outspoken, and full of anecdote and good humor. He died in 1850, aged 88 years.

WILLIAM FREEMAN COOPER is the fourth son of the late Dea. Sherman Cooper, of Croydon. On his father's side he is descended from the Coopers and Shermans; and on his mother's, from the Powerses and Lelands. His parents having a large family and but little property, his early life was one of toil. While living with them his means of education were small. At the age of eighteen he left the paternal roof and was thrown upon his own resources. After spending four years at the Newport Academy and in teaching school to improve the state of his finances, he, in 1824, commenced his professional studies with Dr. Elijah Cooper, of Newport. After completing the usual course of preparatory studies, and attending the lectures at the medical school at Bowdoin College, he graduated with honor from that institution, in 1826, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He returned immediately to Newport, where he commenced the practice of his profession, and remained there about a year. In 1827 he removed to Kelloggsville, in the town of Niles and County of Cayuga, N. Y. By the successful performance of a very difficult surgical operation he opened his way at once to professional fame. He has ever since been engaged in an extensive practice, in which he has amassed an ample fortune, notwithstanding his almost princely liberality. In 1850 he received an honorary degree from Laporte Medical College, Indiana.

COL. OTIS COOPER, son of Dea. Sherman Cooper, was born in 1806. He worked on the farm during his minority, and from seventeen to twenty-one taught school during the winter season with much success. He took a deep interest

in military affairs, and rose to the rank of Colonel. He was unanimously chosen deacon of the Universalist Church of Croydon at its organization in 1853. He held the office of Justice of the Peace for twenty years, and was one of the board of Selectmen. He resides on the old farm selected by his grandfather in 1772. He married Hannah, daughter of Ezekiel Powers.

HON. LEMUEL P. COOPER, son of Dea. Sherman Cooper, was born July 18, 1803. He has been one of the most scientific and thorough farmers in town. He was educated at Newport and Claremont Academies, taught school for more than twenty winters, and was long intrusted with the general management of the schools through town. In 1831, he was married to Laura Whipple, and had one son, Dr. Sherman Cooper, and two daughters, MARY and ELLEN. The sisters were educated at Kimball Union Academy, and studied French at St. Marys, Canada East. They became so proficient as to be able to read and write the French with almost the same readiness as their native tongue. Like their father, they were successful teachers. Mary married Col. Alexander Gardiner, of the 14th Regt. N. H. Vols., an eloquent and promising lawyer. Since the death of her husband, who died in the army, she has turned her attention to the study of the classics. ^{6 Nov. 20, 1880.} Ellen was invited to become the instructor of French at Brattleboro, Vt., ^{Donnell} Mr. Cooper was Selectman seven years, Representative in 1844 and 1845, and State Senator in 1862 and 1863. ^{Donnell}

SHERMAN COOPER, son of Hon. Lemuel P. Cooper, was born Aug. 20, 1833. He received his academical education

at Meriden, N. H., studied medicine in New York City, and graduated at the New York Medical College in 1856. The following year he was deputy resident physician of Blackwell's Island Hospital. He settled at Claremont in 1858. He entered the army in 1861, as Assistant Surgeon of the 6th Regt. N. H. Vols., but was promoted to the rank of Surgeon in March, 1863. At the end of three years, in 1864, he returned to Claremont and resumed the practice of of his profession.

JOHN COOPER, son of Dea. John Cooper, came to Croydon in 1770, and died March 20, 1832. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary army, and was active in the affairs of the town—for nine years one of the selectmen.

JOHN COOPER, son of John Cooper and Lydia Dodge Cooper, and grandson of Dea. John Cooper, one of the first settlers of Croydon, was born in Croydon, June 15, 1806, and was educated in the common school and at the domestic fireside. He is a farmer, but has devoted a portion of his time to teaching and other literary pursuits. He has been elected or appointed Superintending School Committee of Croydon sixteen times.

In 1839 he prepared "An Historical Sketch of Croydon," which was published in the 6th Vol. of the Collections of the New Hampshire Historical Society; and in 1852 he revised the same and published it in pamphlet form. His other publications are his annual School Reports and contributions for the periodical press.

ALANSON L. COOPER, son of Barnabas, and grandson of Dea. John Cooper, was born Oct. 16, 1804. He possessed

intellectual powers of the highest order. He studied medicine and graduated at Brunswick, Me., in 1827, after which he went to Europe, and during his absence spent several months attending hospital practice at Paris. He commenced practice at Auburn, N. Y., where he died in 1841. As a poet, the few gems that have been preserved from his pen indicate a rare genius.

ORVILLE M. COOPER, son of Joel, and grandson of Dea. Sherman Cooper, was born July 28, 1821. He studied medicine and graduated at Hanover in 1845. He commenced practice at Hollis, N. H., where he died in 1847.

ALANSON COOPER, son of Silas and great-grandson of Dea. John Cooper, a Methodist clergyman of much talent and influence, is a Presiding Elder in the Montpelier District, Vt., and is one of the Commissioners to locate the Methodist school.

ELIJAH COOPER, an intelligent physician, was son of Horatio Cooper, and grandson of Nathaniel Cooper, the oldest son of Dea. John Cooper. He graduated at Dartmouth College. After completing his studies, he practiced for a while with decided success at Newport, N. H., but subsequently removed to Columbus, Ohio, where he had an extensive practice for two years, when he removed to Newark, in the same State, where he also had a practice extending over a large section of country, but which so wrought upon his health that he abandoned it altogether in 1833, entered into a large mercantile business, and amassed a considerable fortune. He married the eldest daughter of Nicho-

las Farwell, of Claremont, by whom he had seven children. She died in 1847, and he married her sister, the second daughter of Nicholas Farwell. In September, 1854, Dr. Cooper, his wife, a daughter four years old, and a servant in his family, died of cholera. The second daughter of Dr. Cooper married Maj. John L. Farwell, Cashier of Claremont National Bank.

REUBEN COOPER, son of Reuben, and grandson of Ezra Cooper, one of the first twelve settlers of the town, was one of the Committee of Arrangements, and is a thriving and industrious farmer. Married Cynthia, daughter of Joel, and granddaughter of Dea. Sherman Cooper. *He d. Apr. 5, 1886, age 81.*

NATHANIEL COOPER, son of Ezra Cooper, married Phebe Barton, eldest daughter of Benjamin Barton, Esq., and removed to Leon, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where he occupied a prominent position, for a long time, doing the larger share of public business. His son JOHN has many of the characteristics of his father,—has been Representative, Supervisor, and held other offices.

CARROLL.

DR. REUBEN CARROLL, a native of Sutton, Mass., came to Croydon in 1792, and settled near the Four Corners. He was the first physician in town, and for more than forty years was a successful practitioner. In 1840, he was thrown from his carriage and killed. (See Oration of Dr. Stow.)

ALBERT CARROLL, son of Charles, and grandson of Folsansbee Carroll, one of the early settlers, is a physician now in practice at South Boston, Mass.

CUTTING.

JONAS CUTTING, BENJAMIN CUTTING and JONATHAN CUTTING, sons of Francis Cutting, came early to this town from Worcester, Mass., and settled on the banks of Sugar River, near the Newport line. From them have descended the Cuttings.

FRANCIS CUTTING, son of Benjamin Cutting, has been an extensive dealer in cattle, sheep and horses. He was born May 14, 1793. He is one of the largest tax-payers in town and has raised up a large family of prosperous boys, all of whom have settled near him.

FREEMAN CUTTING, son of Francis Cutting, was born July 19, 1821. He was one of the Vice-Presidents on the day of Celebration, has raised up a large family, and been one of the most energetic and prosperous farmers in Sullivan County.

FRANCIS M. CUTTING and SHEPHERD H. CUTTING, brothers of the above, both married daughters of Dimmick Baker, Esq., of Plainfield, and are among the most thriving farmers of Newport. *Francis's d.* 1889

JONATHAN CUTTING, son of Jonathan Cutting, early in life removed to Newport where he was extensively engaged in town business, and was an active and worthy deacon in the Baptist church. He was a man of "infinite jest." I will relate only one of the many anecdotes told of him. Once laboring for a man whose love of gain required his hands to be up, eat breakfast, and be miles away to the woods with an ox team before light, he wished to give him a gentle re-





J. H. Bufford's Lith. Boston.

Jonas Cutting.

minder that he was asking too much—which was done in this wise: When asked to pray one morning, he commenced thus: “We thank thee, O Lord, that thou hast brought us in safety *thus far* through the night, and if in thy providence we are permitted to see the light of another day, may we go forth to its duties with a cheerful heart and in thy fear,” &c. The next morning he was permitted to eat his breakfast by daylight.

JONAS CUTTING, LL. D., son of Jonas Cutting and Betsey Eames Cutting, and grandson of Jonas, senior, was born in Croydon, on the 3d of November, 1800. He prepared for college, principally under the tuition of Otis Hutchins, then Principal of Kimball Union Academy in Plainfield, and entered the Freshman Class at Dartmouth College in 1819. He graduated in 1823, and subsequently read law, first with the late Hon. Henry Hubbard, of Charlestown, and the third year with Hon. Reuel Williams, at Augusta, Maine, where he was admitted to the bar in 1826. Thence he removed to the town of Orono, in Penobscot county, where he remained in the practice of his profession until October, 1831, when he removed to Bangor, the shire town of the same county.

In 1833 he was married to Lucretia H., daughter of John Bennoch, Esq., of Orono. They had three daughters and one son,—the eldest, Rebecca D., died in infancy; the second, Elizabeth J., at the age of 15, and his son, Frederick H., in his 21st year. His only surviving child is Helen A., who is married to Dr. Augustus C. Hamlin, only son of Hon. Elijah L. Hamlin, brother of the late Vice-President.

His wife, Lucretia, died in 1842. In 1843 he was again married to Ann R., youngest daughter of the late Hon.

Samuel Fales, of Taunton, Mass., with whom he now lives and resides in the city of Bangor.

In 1854 Mr. Cutting was appointed Judge of the Supreme Judicial Court of his adopted State, and at the end of seven years, the duration of the judicial tenor, was re-appointed, which office he now holds. In 1858 his *Alma Mater* conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. The following is his letter to the Committee of Arrangements:

Bangor, May 7, 1866.

OTIS COOPER, Esq.—

MY DEAR SIR:

Your letter, extending an invitation to me to be present at the Centennial Celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the settlement of my *dear* old Croydon, has been received.

I cordially thank the Committee of Arrangements for their kind remembrance of one who will be present on that occasion, unless his official duties should call him elsewhere. A few of the committee I know personally, and the fathers of them all. The person selected to address you on that occasion I well know. He was a Samuel in his youth, and is a St. Paul in his maturity, "without these bonds." And how could it be otherwise? He was born at the base of Croydon mountain, he on one side and the present Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court on the other. There is no *such* mountain in New Hampshire. To say nothing of other natives whose eyes first opened to behold its grandeur and beauty, those two individuals do less to immortalize the mountain, than the mountain to immortalize them. Dear old mountain!—had you been originally selected for the "garden of Eden," man would never have fallen.

Yours truly,

JONAS CUTTING.

ADOLPHUS CUTTING, a younger brother of Hon. Jonas Cutting, of Maine, studied medicine, and after graduating went West, where a decided success has attended both his professional and pecuniary efforts.

CLEMENT.

SOLOMON CLEMENT married Lucy, daughter of Dr. Reuben Carroll, and was for a while a successful merchant at the Four Corners, and a prominent citizen. He removed to Springfield, N. H., where he occupied a leading position,—was chosen Representative. He subsequently engaged in manufacturing business at Springfield, Vt. He died at Plainfield, N. H., in 1866.

CLARK.

CAPT. NATHAN CLARK, a joiner by trade, came to this town from Franklin, Mass., with a pack on his back, in 1787, and purchased him a farm on Baltimore Hill, and in 1788 married Sabrina, eldest daughter of Samuel Metcalf of Framingham. He made the first panel-door and window-sash in town. He gave much time and labor towards erecting the church in 1794, and was ever an active and liberal supporter of the gospel. He died in 1855, at the advanced age of ninety years. NATHAN, his second son, married Zelinda, daughter of Louis Vickery, an Italian, having much of the musical skill of his countrymen; and in 1824 erected the Woolen Factory at the East Village. AMANDA, only daughter of Nathan, Jr., married Oscar F. Morrill, a native of Deer-

ing, N. H., a man possessed of much inventive genius. He has taken out twenty patents, embracing nearly one hundred distinct claims.

CROSBY.

CAPT. PRINCE CROSBY, the father of the Crosbys, came to this town early, from Sturbridge, Mass., and settled near Newport line, south of the Flat.

HON. ORRA CROSBY, son of Prince Crosby, was born Nov. 14, 1793. He was the eldest of seven sons. At sixteen he was apprenticed to Nathan Hurd, of Newport, to learn the cloth-dressing trade. At the expiration of his term of service, having attained his majority, he started on foot, with his pack on his back, for Hardwick, Vt. After laboring there at his trade for three years, he bought out the establishment and commenced business for himself. At which time, April 28, 1818, he married Miss Julia Stevens. By industry, frugality and integrity he prospered in business and laid the foundation of a large fortune. He has been Representative, Justice, Judge of the County Court, and a Director of the Danville Bank, and is now President of the National Bank of Caledonia. As a financier, Judge Crosby has few equals.

His eldest son, a much respected citizen, was engaged to some extent in public business, was a sheriff of the county, and died in 1866, deeply lamented. His third daughter married S. L. Wiswell, a physician of note at Cabot, Vt. His fourth daughter married A. J. Hyde, also a physician, who is doing a successful business in her native village.

FREEMAN CROSBY, son of Capt. Prince Crosby, is a substantial farmer, residing at the Flat, was Representative in 1855 and 1858, and Selectman in 1842. He married Betsey, daughter of James Whipple, of Newport.

DARLING.

DR. WILLIAM W. DARLING, son of William Darling, was born Nov. 20, 1834. He obtained his education at Kimball Union and Thetford Academies; studied medicine with Dr. Thos. Sanborn, of Newport, and graduated at Dartmouth College, Nov. 9, 1859. Located at Sutton, N. H., April 9, 1861, and removed to Goshen, N. H., Sept. 26, 1863. On the 21st of March, 1860, he was connected by marriage with Salona A. Pike, of Newport, N. H.

LUCIUS WESLEY DARLING and ELI DARLING, sons of Elijah Darling, a soldier in the war of 1812, and descendants of James and Huldah Cooper Hall,—the former residing at Newport and the latter at Hanover, now in the prime of life,—are among our most enterprising and prosperous farmers. *Eli d. June 16, 187*

DODGE.

WILLIAM DODGE, son of Perley and Helena Cooper Dodge, and grandson on the mother's side of Dea. Sherman Cooper, was born in 1814. He was for a long time a Deputy Sheriff and Postmaster at the East Village. He removed to Claremont in 1854, where he now resides.

DUNBAR.

AMASA H. DUNBAR, son of Sylvester and Hannah Powers Dunbar, born in 1807, early in life removed to Moravia, N. Y., where we have the amplest testimony of his neighbors showing he has been a most successful and popular teacher, and is a respected and influential citizen. He has always taken a deep interest in educational matters, and has long been *the* director in the Moravian Institute. He is gifted with fine intellectual powers, is a good scholar, social and humorous. He became connected by marriage with one of the best families of his adopted village, and has two sons. His eldest son, GEORGE WARD DUNBAR, graduated at Hobart College, Geneva, N. Y., and at the General Theological Seminary, N. Y. City, and is a successful clergyman of the Episcopal Church. The younger son is a trader in Buffalo, N. Y. Mr. D. is now engaged in improving text-books for the schools.

OTIS DUNBAR, fifth son of Sylvester, born in 1812, is a talented clergyman at Holderness, N. H. Married Julia M. True.

DURKEE.

RUFUS DURKEE, from whom have descended the Durkees, was son of Robert Durkee, and came from Brimfield, Ct. He married Polly, daughter of Thomas, and granddaughter of Moses Whipple, the early settler. He was a tanner by trade, and an original genius.

RUEL DURKEE, son of Rufus and Polly Whipple Durkee, and a descendant of Moses Whipple, Esq., was



John H. Raymond & 14th Boston

Very truly yours,
A. H. Dembar,



born in Croydon, July 14, 1807. He has ever resided in his native town. His early years were spent in obtaining an education in the common school, and in assisting to carry on a tannery. Later in life he has carried on extensive farming operations, besides attending to much other business.

In addition to the management of his own private concerns, he has acted a conspicuous part in the affairs of the town, and in the politics of New Hampshire. His native shrewdness and knowledge of human nature render him a valuable counselor among his neighbors and townsmen. He has represented the town twice in the State Legislature; and has been elected Selectman eighteen times, fifteen of which he has been chairman of the board. During the rebellion, the financial affairs of the town were managed with so much success by him and his associates, that the war expenses of Croydon were comparatively less than those of any other town in the State. In 1846 he was elected Road Commissioners, and in 1864 he was appointed Messenger to carry the electoral vote of New Hampshire to Washington.

As a *politician* he is known far beyond the limits of his native town. His opponents give him the credit of possessing a large share of sagacity; and they ascribe to him a controlling influence with the political party to which he belongs. And it will be admitted by all that for years his influence has been very sensibly felt in the councils of the Republican party of New Hampshire. *H. 2* 188

PAINÉ DURKEE, son of Rufus, was born on the 7th day of October, 1817. He followed the vocation of his father, that of tanner, at the East Village until 1852, when he went to

California and worked in the mines one year. In March, 1861, he was elected Representative of Croydon, and in September of the same year enlisted into the military service; was chosen First Lieutenant, and stationed at Fort Constitution in Portsmouth Harbor. He was detailed as Quarter Master, and acted in that capacity until May, 1862, when the illness of his family obliged him to leave the service. In 1864 he again entered the service, enlisting into the First Regt. Heavy Artillery. He was chosen First Lieutenant of the 11th Co., and was stationed in the defenses of Washington; where he was again detailed as Quarter-Master, the duties of which office he performed with fidelity until the close of the war. In April, 1866, he was appointed Inspector of Customs at Portsmouth, N. H., which office he now holds.

LAVINA DURKEE, sister of the foregoing, married John B. Stowell, Esq., and removed to Newport, where he became a prominent and influential man, and held many important offices. He afterwards removed to Manchester, N. H.

DWINNELL.

AMOS, IRA and CYRUS DWINNELL were in the early days mechanics at the Flat.

EASTMAN.

STEPHEN EASTMAN was a cloth-dresser by trade, resided at the Flat, and for many years took a conspicuous part in the affairs of the town. He was for a long time a leading Justice, for a dozen years Selectman, and Representative in



Z. C. Eastman



1817, '18 and '19. He was affable, honest in his dealings, and much respected.

MOSES EASTMAN, a noted school-master, was son of Philip Eastman, one of the earliest settlers at Ryder Corner.

JOSEPH EASTMAN came to this town from Hopkinton, N. H., about the middle of the century, and settled at the East Village. He was a joiner by trade, and a valuable citizen. He afterwards removed to the west part of the town and turned his attention to farming. He was a Representative in 1838 and 1839.

TIMOTHY C. EASTMAN, son of Joseph Eastman, Esq., was born May 30, 1821. His time during his minority was divided between farming, mechanical work, teaching, and attending school at Kimball Union Academy. In 1845 he married Lucy, daughter of John Putnam, Esq. After four years of farming in the East, he removed to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1850, and commenced the milk trade. After the first two years he kept one hundred cows. In 1853, in connection with his milk business, he commenced dealing in cattle for the Cleveland market, and in 1854 began to ship them to New York and Boston. In 1857 he removed to New York, where he has since resided, and is one of the most extensive and successful dealers in cattle in the city. He has achieved a handsome fortune. In youth he was fond of hunting and fishing, and being a man of uncommon physical power was always the champion of the wrestling match. During the past year he has purchased him a beautiful farm on the Hudson River, about sixty miles above the city of New York, containing four hundred acres of choice

land, where, besides a large number of working and fat oxen and horses, he keeps over one hundred cows, from which during the past season he has sold over \$10,000 worth of milk. Many are they who can attest to the generous hospitality of Mr. Eastman. *He d. Oct. 11, 1892. Business & personal*

PROSPER L. EASTMAN, son of Joseph Eastman, Esq., was born March 1, 1825. Jan. 4, 1846, married Eleanor H. Haven, daughter of Moses, and granddaughter of Rev. Jacob Haven. In 1855 he went West, and engaged as a drover in Ohio and Wisconsin for four years, at the expiration of which time he returned to New York City, and became connected in business with his brother as a cattle broker. He is now located at Albany—the great cattle rendezvous from the West—where he is operating in connection with his brother at New York. Like his brother, in him are combined enterprise and sound judgment.

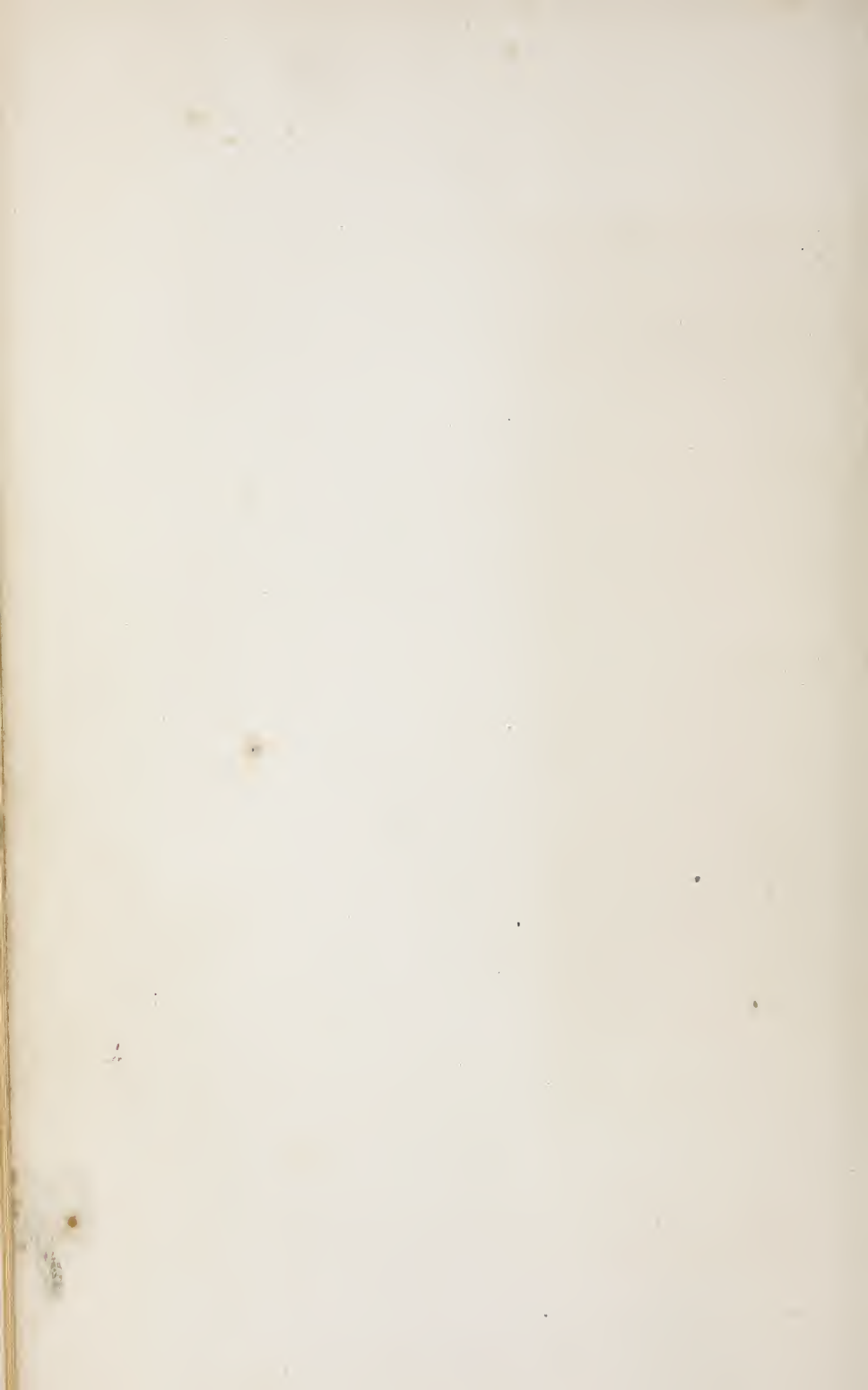
ELLIOT.

LEISTER HALL ELLIOT, son of Dea. Ezra Elliot, was born August 1, 1835; fitted for college at Essex, Vt.; graduated at the University of Vermont, at Burlington, August, 1861, and at the Union Theological Seminary, New York City, June, 1864. He was licensed to preach by the Brooklyn Congregational Association, April 6, 1864; acted as pastor of the Congregational Church at Colchester, Vt., for one year, and was ordained as pastor of the Congregational Church at Winooski, Vt., May 2, 1866. October 2d, 1866, he was married to Miss Lois M. Johnson, of Greensboro, Vt.



J. H. Bufford's Lith.

P. L. Eastman



EMERY.

GEN. NATHAN EMERY, an active and successful farmer, was noted for his public spirit, and more especially for his zeal and interest in the militia. He passed through all the various grades from private to Major General, and contributed liberally both of time and money to maintain the honor of the institution. He married Esther Hagar, a lady of excellent judgment. He died at the Flat—whither he had removed to spend his declining years—in 1857, aged 65 years.

FOSTER.

HERSCHEL FOSTER, clergyman at Fairlee, Vt., born in 1801, is son of Lemuel and Chloe Powers Foster, and on the mother's side grandson of Ezekiel Powers.

FRYE.

DAVID FRYE, the father of the Fries, came to this town from Worcester County, Mass., and settled in the west part of the town, near the Mountain. *Son David W. C. Frye, 1857.*

FERRIN.

JOHN FERRIN married Hannah Jacobs, daughter of Whitman Jacobs, and after devoting several years to farming in Croydon, removed to Morristown, Vt., where he carried on a successful mercantile business, and where he occupied a prominent position in town. He was Representative two years, and an active justice until his death. He

was a man of large physical and mental endowments. His eldest son, WHITMAN W., is a distinguished lawyer at Montpelier; and his second son, HARRISON, a worthy farmer, has been a Representative from Morristown.

FLETCHER.

REV. LUTHER JACOBS FLETCHER, son of David Fletcher, was born Nov. 25, 1818. His father was a blacksmith by trade, and he, the youngest son, was the "heir apparent" to the bellows and the anvil; but his love for books was stronger than the paternal decree. He pursued his preparatory studies at Unity Academy, and graduated at the Norwich University, 1841. In 1842 he was settled as pastor of the Universalist church in Surry, N. H. The year after, he was chosen Principal of the Mount Caesar Seminary at Swanzey, but the duties of his two-fold office proving too severe for him, after three years service he removed to Brattleboro, Vt.; from thence he was called to Cambridge, Mass., and soon after to Lowell, where he labored for four years.

Here pecuniary considerations induced him to turn his attention to the law. In this profession also he was quite successful. His clear head, ready talent, and eloquent tongue, made him quite popular. At the end of three years he was appointed Commissioner of Insolvency, and soon after elevated to the position of Judge. When this court was united with that of the Probate, he re-entered the ministry, and returned to his old society at Lowell. He remained there but three years, when he was called to settle in the city of Brooklyn, but the health of his son induced him to remove to Bath, Me., where he is now settled over a large society.

He has published a Service-Book and a series of text-books which are quite popular, and is now publishing a work entitled, *Gloria Patria*, consisting of Prayers, Chants and Liturgical services for public worship. He was a member of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, in 1856, in which body he took an active and leading part. *Had. Soc. 20. 1854. Transl. in*

CYRUS KINGSBURY FLETCHER, second son of Timothy Fletcher—who was for a long time a worthy, gifted and zealous deacon of the Baptist Church at Newport—was one of the Committee of Arrangements, and is a most worthy and exemplary farmer. He married Rachel Jacobs, daughter of Luther, and resides on the old “Jacobs Farm,” so long occupied by her grandfather, Whitman Jacobs.

GIBSON.

WILLIAM GIBSON, one of the early settlers of the town, married Abigail Sanger, a daughter of Isaac Sanger. They had eight children. The following includes those of the family, in part, who have turned their attention to literary and professional pursuits.

WILLARD P. GIBSON, son of William, born September 2, 1798, studied medicine and graduated at Castleton, Vt., in 1822; spent fifteen years in the practice of his profession at Newport and elsewhere, and then turned his attention to theology. He died October 23, 1837, four days after his ordination.

OTIS GIBSON, son of William, was born June 8, 1807; studied medicine, graduated at Woodstock, Vt., in 1830, and settled at Wellsboro, Pa.

ALANSON, son of Gardner, and grandson of William, was a clergyman. Is now deceased.

AUSTIN, son of Samuel and Susan Gibson Putnam, clergyman. (See Sketch.)

BUSHROD RICE and GARDNER WINSLOW, sons of William Gibson, were both physicians. The former died at Pomfret, Vt., many years since; the latter entered the army as an officer, and was killed at Cold Harbor.

Of the children of Winslow Gibson, OTIS is a missionary at Fuh Chau in China; HENRY graduated at the New York Medical College and went to China, where he died; GARDNER, clergyman, resides at Moira, N. Y.; FRANKLIN, clergyman, died in Connecticut.

LIZZIE and MARY W. F., daughters of Willard P. Gibson, made literature a profession. The latter has for several years past resided in Europe, where, besides publishing several books, she has contributed much both of prose and poetry to the magazines.

WILLARD PUTNAM and OTIS LLOYD, sons of John Gibson, are both clergymen.

LEWIS W., a clergyman, and OTIS, a physician, are sons of Otis Gibson.

GOLDTHWAIT.

SAMUEL GOLDTHWAIT came to this town from Northbridge, Mass., in 1780, and settled in the north-westerly part of the town; was an extensive and wealthy farmer; was a Representative and Selectman, and took an active part

in the construction of the "Croydon Turnpike." He died at the advanced age of 93.

CAPT. ZINA GOLDTHWAIT, son of Samuel, was born Nov. 6, 1787, commenced on the homestead, and was an extensive and tidy farmer, kept a dairy of fifty cows. He was a high-toned, exemplary man, gentlemanly in his bearing, and quite a favorite. While in town he held many offices. He removed to Newport, where he has been elected to many important town offices, and been a leading member of the Baptist Church. He married Anna, daughter of Col. Henry Howard. *Daughter Mary Ann m. Daniel Wood M.D. & all House legs. &c. b. Aug. 22, 1819. Francis H. b. June 24, 1823 m. Julia F. m. p. 21*

GOODWIN.

ISRAEL GOODWIN, remembered by many for his clear intellect and social qualities, resided at the Flat, and in his earlier days worked at cloth-dressing. He married Miss Betsey Melendy, and about the year 1824 removed to Plainfield, Vt., where he occupied a prominent position; was Representative two years, and State Senator two years. He was appointed Judge and removed to Montpelier, where he died. He exerted a wide influence, and was esteemed one of the most correct and competent business men in the county.

GUSTIN.

DR. EZRA GUSTIN, son of Ezra Gustin, studied medicine with Dr. Elias Frost, of Plainfield, and after three years of most successful practice in his native town, died November

29, 1818, aged 30 years. As a teacher he was much beloved. As a man he was possessed of superior judgment, self-reliant, energetic, and much a favorite. He married Anna Holdbrook, daughter of David, who survived him but one year—left one child, the late Mrs. Lewis Richardson, who died in 1858.

HALL.

LIEUT. EDWARD HALL came to town during the Revolution, bringing with him seven sons—Ezekiel, Abijah, James, Edward, John, Darius and Ezra—and settled on the flat, south of the farm of J. Nutting. From this family and Rev. Samuel Read Hall have descended the Halls. The family were shrewd, and fond of amusements.

ABIJAH HALL, remembered for his capital jokes and unfathomed resource of fun and anecdote, was drowned near the Glidden Bridge.

CAPT. AMASA HALL, son of Abijah Hall, was born Feb. 7, 1789; married Rebecca L. Melendy in 1811. He was an active business man and one of our most successful farmers. He was distinguished for energy and decision of character, a clear head and ready judgment. He belonged to that portion of Croydon which was subsequently set off to Grantham. He was a Captain in the war of 1812; was Selectman of Grantham for eight years; Representative from Croydon in 1824 and 1825, and from Grantham in 1832, '34, '35, and '36; Road Commissioner in 1841, and a Director in Sugar River Bank from its first organization until 1861. He was an influential member of the Congregational Church. In 1858 he retired from active business.

ADOLPHUS HALL, only son of Amasa Hall, was born December 7, 1811; married Sally Leavitt, daughter of Dudley, and sister of Dr. Nathaniel Leavitt. Like his father he was a successful business man. He was bred a farmer, but since 1861 has been engaged in mercantile business. He was Selectman of Grantham in 1859 and 1862, Representative in 1860 and 1861, and County Treasurer in 1865 and 1866.

DANIEL R. HALL, son of Abijah Hall, and grandson of Lieut. Edward Hall, was born July 3, 1802. He took much interest in the militia; was an efficient officer in the "Croydon Rifle Company;" was Colonel of the 31st Regiment, and Brigade Inspector under Gen. Nathan Emery. He was Town Clerk ten years, Selectman in 1855, and Representative in 1862 and 1863. He is a Director in the First National Bank at Newport. As a Justice he has for many years done most of the business in his section of the town. He married Martha, daughter of James Perkins.

HORACE P. HALL, son of Col. Daniel R. Hall, was born August 5, 1827. He fitted for college at Marlow and Kimball Union Academies. After spending two years at Middletown College, Ct., and another at Amherst College, Mass., he abandoned his studies on account of ill health, and went West. He was for two years Principal of Marshall Academy, Ill., for seven a Professor of Latin in Union College at Merom, Indiana, and is now Principal of the Academy at Pendleton, Indiana. He was for a time connected with the army. In 1863 the Asbury University conferred on him the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

JAMES HALL, son of James and Huldah Cooper Hall, was for many years an enterprising farmer and merchant in

Croydon, but removed to Newport, where he now resides, and where he has been elected to many offices, and has exerted a wide influence.

JOHN HALL, son of James Hall, Esq., and grandson of James Hall, Sr., was born in October, 1813; studied medicine with his uncle Albina Hall; graduated at Brunswick, Me., and commenced the practice of his profession at Newark, Ohio, where he died. His two daughters, JULIA and MARY, are both well educated and accomplished teachers.

ALBINA HALL and LYMAN HALL, sons of James Hall, after spending most of their minority in town, turned their attention to medicine. The former married Livia Powers, and after practicing awhile in Maine and New York has returned to Croydon. The latter followed his profession at Cornish Flat until his death, which occurred but a few years since. *Albina d. Feb. 1878 - 62 - Newport - 94*

AHIRA HALL, son of James Hall, removed to Chautauque County, western New York, where he was an active Justice. His son JOHN, a wealthy lawyer, has been a member of the Assembly of the State. JAMES, a physician, was surgeon in the army, and died in the service. ALBINA, a clergyman, is settled at Girard, Pa.

CAPT. EDWARD HALL, son of Lieut. Edward Hall, opened the first store of note in town. It was situated on the top of the swell of land between East Village and Four Corners. He is remembered as a shrewd, prosperous trader. He died March 14, 1817, aged 57 years.

CALVIN HALL, son of Capt. Edward Hall, a popular man and extensive farmer, after enjoying many honors in his native town, removed to Lowell, Mass., where he now resides.

NATHAN HALL, son of Edward Hall, Jr., is an independent farmer residing at the Flat. He was Chief Marshal at the Celebration, has been many years elected to town offices, and is now a Commissioner for Sullivan County.

GEORGE HALL, son of Edward Hall, Jr., was on board the Cumberland during its fight with the Merrimac, and swam to the boat when it went down. The British and French ships were by, as witnesses of the conflict. The Captain saw what the result must be, and inquired of his men, "Shall we strike colors and save life, or fight on?" The gallant crew replied, "We can be shot, or sunk in the ocean, but surrender—*never*."

PLINY HALL, son of Martin, and grandson of Capt. Edward Hall, was born Sept. 21, 1817. At the age of seven, on the death of his father, he went to live with his uncle Calvin Hall, and labored on the farm until he was twenty-one. In 1842 he entered the store of Ruel Durkee, Esq., where he was principal clerk for nine years, and was chief clerk to his successor for three years. He then returned to farming, which occupation he has since followed. He was appointed U. S. Assistant Census Marshal in 1850; was elected Representative in 1851 and 1852, and County Treasurer in 1855 and 1856. He was appointed one of the Committee on the Apportionment of the Public Taxes, in June, 1852, and U. S. Enrolling Officer in 1864.

CAPT. ARIEL HALL, son of Darius Hall, married Ase-nath, daughter of Capt. John Humphry, and after operating awhile in town removed to Williamstown, Vt., where he now resides and is carrying on extensive farming business.

CAPT. WORTHEN HALL, son of Darius, and grandson of Lt. Edward Hall, was born July 11, 1802. He had few early advantages ; until he was twenty-five years of age he struggled against all the embarrassments which a deficient education, poor health, poverty and ill-luck, could throw in his pathway. In 1827 he went to sea in a whaling vessel, before the mast, as a common sailor. He was adapted to the business, and was regularly promoted at the end of each successive voyage, until the fall of 1837, when he became Master of the ship, which position he held for eighteen years, until he left the sea. He has circumnavigated the earth twice, doubled Cape Horn six times, and the Cape of Good Hope as many more ; has killed five hundred whales, and brought home more than twenty-two thousand barrels of oil. Aug. 1, 1837, he was married to Polly D. Lovewell, who was with him some ten years at sea, two of which she spent at the Sandwich Islands. He was elected a Director of the Sugar River Bank, and is now a director in the First National Bank at Newport, and was chosen Representative from his native town in 1866. He was generous to his connections, and retired with a fortune. His present affluence and luxury presents a pleasing contrast with his early poverty, and affords to the young another example illustrating the truth that early indigence and embarrassments are no insurmountable barrier to success in after-life.

While at sea, a most thrilling incident occurred : Mary, E - M
his darling and only daughter, while at play, fell overboard, *Herb*
She is,
Age 8



Wentham Hall



and in a moment would be swallowed up by the angry waves. In an instant, forgetting all personal danger, he plunged into the ocean after her. Buoyed up by her clothes, she rode upon the waves like a little fairy, and as her father approached she raised up her hands imploringly towards him, exclaiming, "Father, I am overboard!" And now who shall depict the terrible frenzy of that wife and mother as she sees them both sinking to a watery grave! She knew her husband was unaccustomed to swim; the ship under full headway, was fast leaving them behind; to her anxious heart it seemed as though the boat never would lower, and she felt that both must be lost. Twice had they already gone down. Once more, and they shall never again rise to bless her on earth. It is the last time—"O my God! they are sinking!" Rushing forward with both arms extended, as though she would fly to their relief, she exclaimed in the wildest despair, "They are lost! they are lost!" Overcome by her emotions, she sank down in unconsciousness. As a good Providence would have it, both were rescued alive. Nothing can be more touching than the pitying moan of that daughter, as she clung to the bedside of her father during the hours of his slow recovery from his death-grapple with the ocean.

DOCT. SILAS HALL, son of Ezra Hall, was born in Dec. 1792. In 1808, moved with his father to Cayuga Co., N. Y. In 1815, commenced the study of medicine with Consider King, an excellent physician, and received his diploma in 1818. After ten years of practice at Sempronius, the county seat, he removed to Monrovia, where he has since resided.

SAMUEL READ HALL, son of Rev. Samuel R. Hall, was born Oct. 27, 1795. He was educated at home, and at the Academies of Bridgeton, Me., and at Plainfield, N. H. He studied theology, was licensed to preach in 1822, and was ordained over the church at Concord, Vt., in 1823. In 1830 he was appointed principal of the English Department in Philips Academy at Andover, Mass. In 1837, took charge of the Holmes Plymouth Academy at Plymouth, N. H., and in 1840 was installed pastor of the Congregational Church at Craftsbury, Vt. He has been an extensive author, having published some fifteen or twenty volumes on various subjects. In 1838 the degree of M. A. was conferred on him by Dartmouth College.

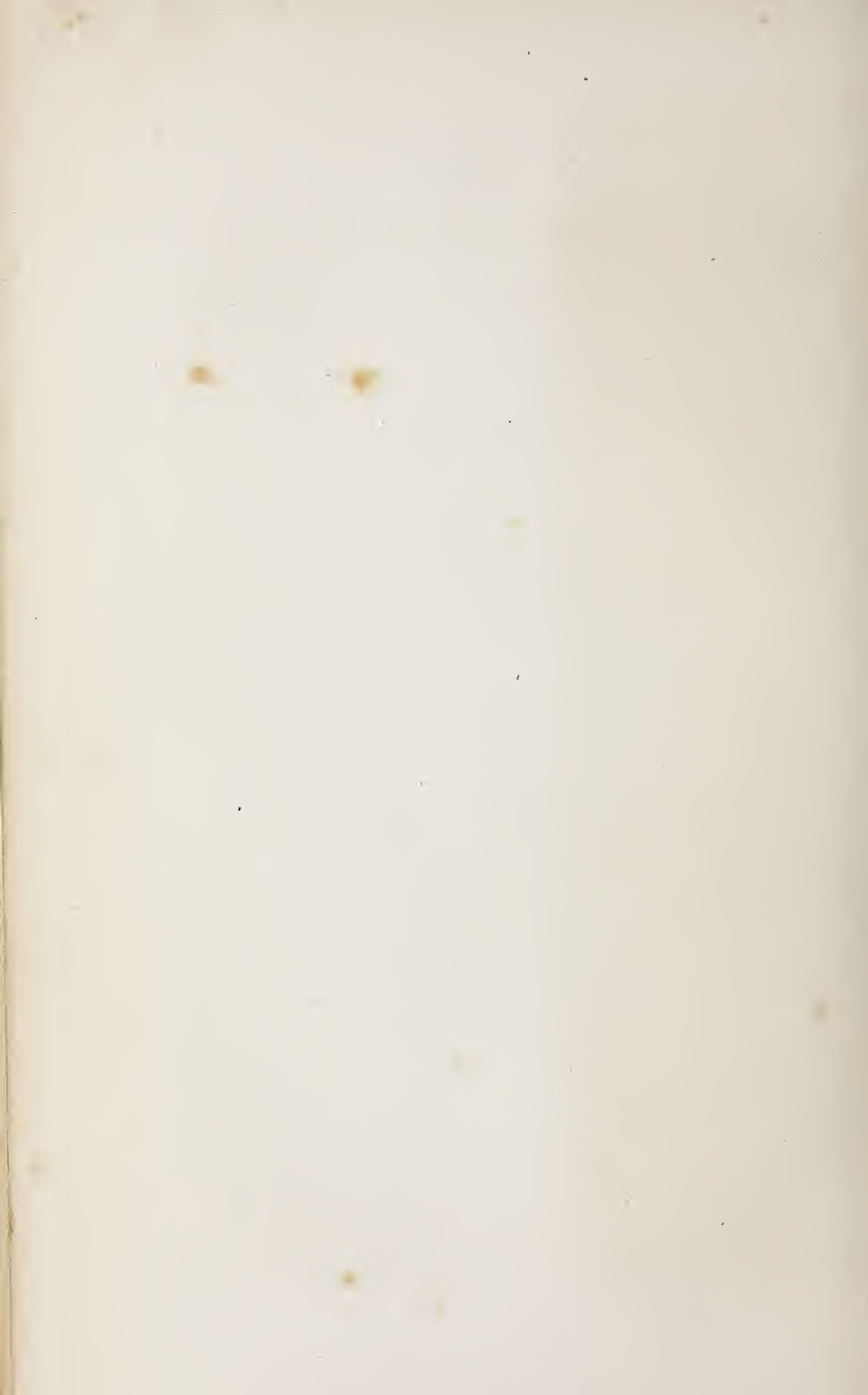
HAVEN.

REV. JACOB HAVEN, son of David Haven, was born at Framingham, Mass., April 25, 1763. He graduated at Harvard College in 1785, studied theology with Rev. Mr. Kellogg of his native town, and was ordained and settled at Croydon, June 18, 1788. As a preacher, his sermons were always terse and logical, and his oratory solemn and impressive. He was Town Clerk thirty-one years. He died March 17, 1845, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. As he was the first, and for more than half a century almost the only clergyman in town, he is, and will long continue to be recollected with much interest—and few men have a better claim to the remembrance of their townsmen. (See also speech of Dr. Stow.)

WHIPPLE HAVEN, a brother of the above, married Judith Stow, an aunt of Baron Stow; was a cabinet maker at the



Jacob Haven.



East Village, and is remembered as a worthy man and good mechanic.

HANNAH HAVEN, daughter of Rev. Jacob Haven, and second wife of Simeon Wheeler, was born April 28, 1795, and died at Newport, Dec. 20, 1842. She was an intelligent and well educated lady, and much beloved by her associates. She was the mother of several children, some of whom survived her and partake of the mental and moral qualities which distinguished her. JACOB W., a young man of much promise, and a printer and editor by profession, died in 1853. LUCY P. married Frederick Stevens, Esq., and resides with her husband and young family in Minnesota. HANNAH, her youngest surviving daughter, married Austin Corbin, Esq., formerly of Newport. He was for some years a successful lawyer and banker in Iowa, and is at present a banker in the city of New York. The family resides in Brooklyn, N. Y.

MIRANDA HAVEN, youngest child of Rev. Jacob and Asenath Haven, was born March 8, 1799, married William Armes, Esq., of Stanstead, Canada East. They afterwards removed to Sherbrook, C. E., where he died and where his widow still remains. They had six children. ADELINÉ ASENATH married Samuel Tusk, of Sherbrook. MIRANDA married Thomas Goldsmith, a successful goldsmith at Troy, N. Y. ADELIA married John McNeil, and CALISTA Lemuel Farewell, both residing at Sherbrook. WILLIAM, the son, went to California.

HAGAR.

AMOS HAGAR married Sarah Powers and settled on the Hagar place, opposite the C. K. Fletcher farm, and was the man from whom have descended the Hagars.

HOLBROOK.

LEANDER HOLBROOK, son of Peter, and grandson of David Holbrook, was born April 11, 1815. The family came from Upton, Mass. His father, a merchant at the East Village, died in 1822. Owing to a want of proper management in the settlement of his estate, the son was left penniless. At the age of seventeen, he left the farm and prepared for college, defraying his expenses by teaching, after which he studied law. He attended the Law School at Harvard College, Mass. Was admitted to the bar in 1846, and soon after opened an office at Milford, Mass., where he now resides.

HUMPHRY.

JOHN HUMPHRY came to this town early from Hingham, Mass., and settled on the east slope of the Pinnacle on the farm now occupied by his son Piam. He was a substantial farmer. Of his children, NATHANIEL and PIAM, both excellent farmers, remain near the homestead, while LEAVITT, a blacksmith, JOHN and GEORGE removed to the Flat. SUSAN was a noted tailoress. Many a boy "with shining morning face," has tripped to school with a lighter heart for the "new spencer" which "Aunt Susan" has made him. LYDIA married the Hon. Moses Humphry, of Concord, and ASENATH married Capt. Ariel Hall, of Williamstown, Vt.

MOSES HUMPHRY was born at Hingham, Mass., in 1807. At the age of twenty-four he was married to Lydia Humphry, daughter of John Humphry, one of the early settlers of Croydon. At fourteen he commenced going to sea, and

at nineteen was appointed Master of a vessel, which position he held until he left the sea at the age of twenty-five. He was the first man that commenced the manufacture of mackerel kits by machinery, which business he has pursued with ever-increasing energy since, at Hingham, at Croydon nine years, and now at Concord. In 1853, when Concord adopted the city charter, he was elected to the City Council, and was re-elected in 1854, of which body he was President. In 1855 and 1856, he was elected one of the Aldermen; in 1857 and 1858 was Representative; in 1861 was elected Mayor and held the office two years; was again elected to the same office in 1865, and declined a re-election the following year. In 1865 he was appointed one of the Trustees of the State Reform School, which office he now holds. *In 2^d Decr 2, 1888 Mrs. Adeline J. Clarke of New Concord*

DENISON HUMPHRY, son of Leavitt, one of the Committee of Arrangements, is a farmer and trader at the Flat, and has been Selectman, and a Representative two years. Like his father and other members of the family, he was noted for superior mechanical skill. *He d. Apr 25/96*

STILLMAN HUMPHRY, son of John Humphry, Jr., was born November 15, 1833; worked on the farm until he was seventeen years of age, three years in a cooper's shop, three years as a clerk in a store at West Concord, and two years as clerk in a hardware store at Concord, N. H. In 1858 he formed a business connection with Mr. David A. Warde, under the style of Warde & Humphry, and commenced the hardware trade at Concord, where he has since remained, proving one of the most popular and thriving merchants in the State. In 1857 he was married to Miss Virtaline C.

Hall, of Maine. Like many of the sons of Croydon, his parents were poor, but honest and respectable. Their prayers and blessings, added to his own resolute will, constituted his original stock in trade. *He was a very successful trader in the fur and seal trade.*

HURD.

WILLIAM HENRY HURD, oldest son of Henry and Abigail Gibson Hurd, was born at Croydon on the 30th of August, 1829. Fitted for college at Kimball Union Academy; studied medicine with Dr. McQuestion, of Washington, and Dr. Justus Hurd, of Mississippi; attended lectures at Cincinnati Medical College, and graduated from Hanover in 1854. He commenced practice at Wells River, Vt., but removed to Ashton, Canada West, where he remained until 1858. He then removed to Carleton Place, Canada West, where he now resides. He was married May 10, 1859, to Miss Rosalind Rosamond, daughter of James Rosamond, banker of Almonte, Canada West.

WILLARD OTIS HURD, son of Henry Hurd, was born December 7, 1838. Studied medicine with his brother, Dr. W. H. Hurd, at Ashton, Canada West, and graduated at the Albany Medical College in 1860. He was connected with his brother in practice at Carleton Place, Canada West, until July, 1863, when he enlisted into the U. S. Army; was commissioned Assistant Surgeon in the 83d Regt. N. Y. Vols., and on the mustering out of that regiment in 1864, was transferred to the 97th N. Y. Vols. In the autumn of 1865, he commenced practice in Grantham, N. H., where he now resides. In August, 1866, he was married to Miss Randilla W. Howard, of that place.

CHARLES EUGENE HURD, son of Henry Hurd, was born in Croydon, June 15, 1833. He became connected editorially with the "Tribune," a semi-weekly journal published at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, in 1856. At the end of two years he returned to Boston and devoted himself mainly to reporting and writing for the press. In 1864 he became connected with the "Leader," a Sunday morning paper published in Boston. In September, 1865, he became city editor for the "Erie Dispatch," at Erie, Pa., and now occupies the chair of Associate Editor on the same journal.

IDE.

JOSIAH IDE, son of Daniel Ide, one of the early settlers, deserves a remembrance as one of the most worthy and respected farmers in town.

JACOBS.

WHITMAN JACOBS, son of Rev. Whitman Jacobs, of Royalston, Mass., came to Croydon about the year 1777, and settled near the south line of the town, south of C. K. Fletcher's farm, but subsequently built where Mr. Fletcher now lives. From him have descended the Jacobses. He was a shrewd financier, and died possessed of a large estate.

His son LUTHER settled on Stow Hill, and left quite a family. ELI married Jerusha Whipple and removed to Vermont, and was a worthy deacon and valuable citizen. HANNAH married John Ferrin.

PAUL JACOBS, son of Whitman Jacobs, was born in 1783. He married Prudence, daughter of Jonah Stow. He was

a man of great energy of character, and was eminently practical in his views. He was one of the largest and best farmers in town, often kept a dairy of thirty cows, and other stock in proportion. He brought to town several choice breeds of cattle and sheep. He was the main instrument in getting the river-road through from the Flat to the East Village—a deed that entitles his memory to the respect of all after-generations of his townsmen. He built a factory at the Flat for the manufacture of potato starch. The same year in which he died—not living to quite complete the work—he built the church at the Flat, at his own expense, at a cost of some two thousand dollars, and gave it to the Universalist Society—thus attesting both his religious faith and his generosity. He was Selectman in 1832, and Representative in 1831 and 1835. He died September 16, 1854, aged 71 years.

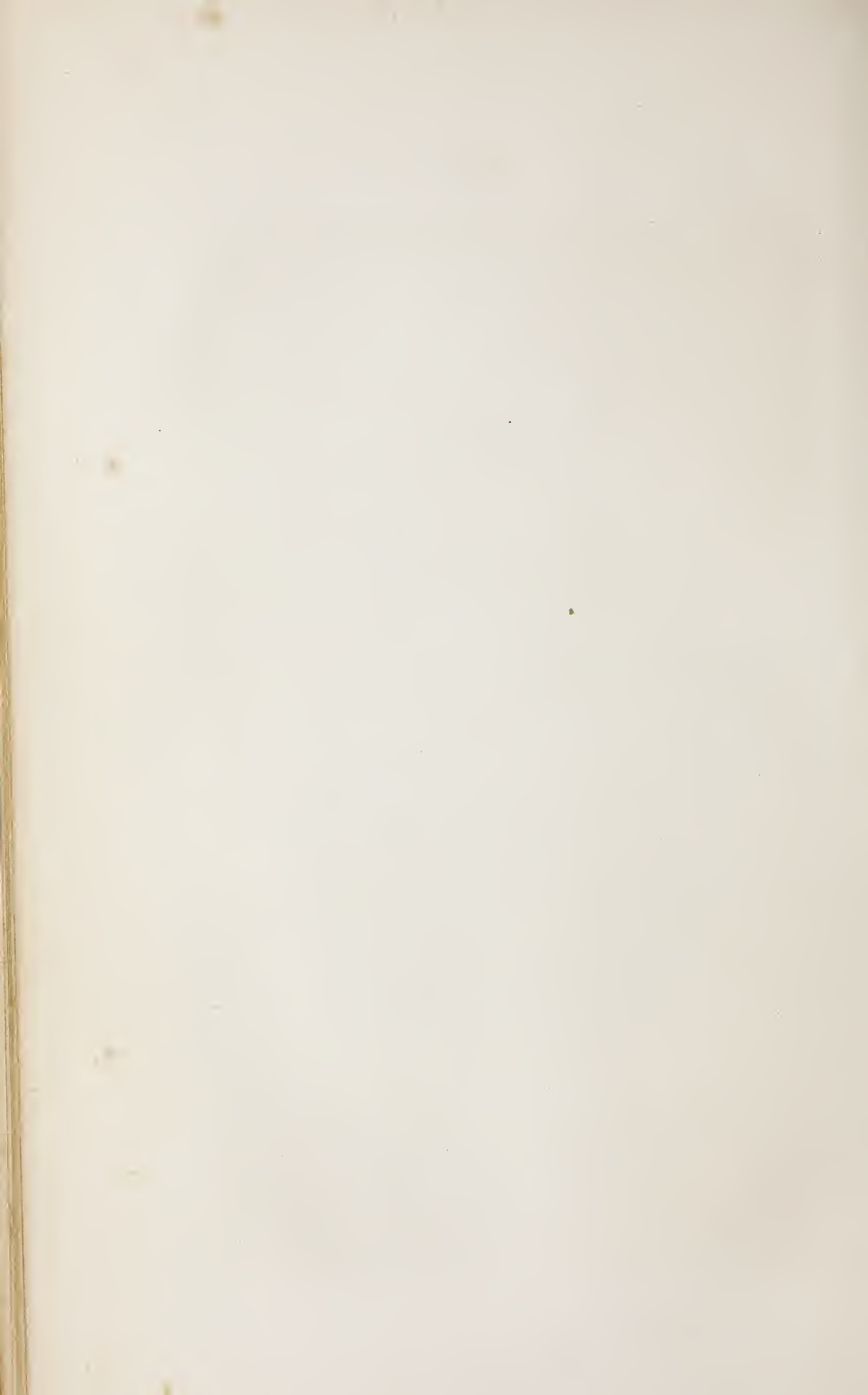
KEMPTON.

EPHRAIM KEMPTON, the father of the Kemptons, came early to Croydon and purchased some four hundred acres of land, covering all the grounds where the Flat is now situated, and built near the residence of Capt. Nathan Hall. He never attained to great wealth, and was unassuming in his manners.

ROLLINS A. KEMPTON, fifth son of Col. Calvin Kempton, was born Oct. 29, 1826. In addition to the district school, he received the instructions of his father at home, who was an experienced and most faithful teacher, and had been for thirty years Superintending School Committee of the town.



Rollins A Rempton



His early life was full of poverty and discouragements. At the tender age of nine years he followed his mother to her grave, and was thus deprived of her guardian care and sympathy. His father had been a large farmer and extensive wool-grower, but the revulsions of 1837 swept away his fortune and left him a poor man, with a large family, and hard labor and few privileges was the lot of the son. At twenty-one, with a coarse freedom suit, a five-dollar gold piece, and a father's blessing, he started out in the world. He first went to Lowell, but here his utmost labor would barely pay his board. So, one pleasant morning, with seventy-five cents in his pocket—all the money he had left after paying his bills—he started for Lawrence, and his trip to the "new city" represents most graphically the discouragements which sometimes beset a young man while starting out in the world: Arriving there he found he had no friends, no money, and no employment. For two days he sought most earnestly for something to do,—battling against rain, and cold, and hunger,—and every step had been a failure, and he had been to Methuen and met there the same result. At the end of that time however, nothing daunted, he returned to Lowell full of "pluck," determined "to be somebody" yet. He subsequently learned the joiner's trade. In 1851, he married Maria J. Reed, of Northfield, Vt., and commenced business at Lawrence. At the end of eleven years he owned eight double tenement houses, and a steam mill, and had been a member of the city government. In 1862 he removed to Boston, where he now resides, and is a partner in three dry goods stores, with an estimated property of nearly one hundred thousand dollars—illustrating in his life the truth of the old maxim that, "A bad beginning makes a good ending."

WILLARD C. KEMPTON, son of Col. Calvin Kempton, was born Oct. 13, 1840. He labored on the farm at home until 1858. He then attended school at Newport and Kimball Union Academies until 1861, when he commenced the study of medicine with his uncle, Dr. W. Clough, of Pittsfield, Mass. He attended lectures at Berkshire and Hanover Medical Colleges. He went to the war as a hospital steward, but was subsequently appointed successively Assistant Surgeon of a colored regiment, of the second Reg. N. H. Vols., and of the Freedmen's Bureau. He married Elvira M. Johnson, of Springfield, N. H., and is now in the practice of his profession at Mansfield, Kansas.

SILAS KEMPTON, son of Jeremiah, and grandson of Ephraim, the first settler; after carrying on a successful tanning and shoe business at the Flat, removed to Newport, where he is now engaged in farming.

JONAS C. KEMPTON, son of Ephraim, and grandson of Ephraim senior, the early settler of the town, removed to Nashua and became a confectioner. He has amassed a fortune and been twice honored by his adopted city with a seat in the Legislature.

KIDDER.

WM. WALLACE KIDDER, son of Amos and Lucinda Barton Kidder, was born Aug. 11, 1845, studied medicine with Williams Barton, M. D.; was with Capt. Ira McL. Barton, as orderly in the 5th Reg. N. H. Vols., and also in the 9th Reg. N. H. Vols.

LOVERIN.

JOHN LOVERIN came to this town from Springfield, N. H.; married a sister of Capt. Edward Hall, settled on the G. W. Cain place, and died a wealthy farmer.

KIMBALL LOVERIN, son of John, has been a successful farmer.

MARSH.

SAMUEL MARSH, from whom have descended the Marshes, came early to town and settled near the Four Corners. His wife, who had long lived in the family of a physician, and had become skilled in the "healing art," kept the first primitive "Apothecary's Shop" in town. Besides her knowledge of medicine she was noted for her mechanical ingenuity. The old "dies," with which she used to print the ladies' calico dresses, are still in being, as also the "pillion" on which she visited her patients. The husband died in 1832, aged 94; the wife in 1834, aged 90 years.

SAMUEL MARSH, Jr., was father of ELOM, one of the Vice-Presidents at the Celebration, a successful farmer at Westmoreland, N. H.,—of JOHN L. who moved to Jefferson County, N. Y., where he has been elected a Representative and exerted much influence, and ORREN who was educated at Norwich University and went to Oregon.

DELLAVAN D. MARSH, son of WILLIAM, and grandson of Samuel, was born May 8, 18¹⁸¹⁸⁶⁷. He studied medicine with Willard P. Gibson, of Newport, and John S. Blanchard, of Cornish; attended lectures at Woodstock, Vt., and at Hanover, N. H., and graduated from the latter institution in

1834. He commenced practice at Mount Desert, Me., the same year, but in 1837 returned to Croydon, where he has since remained in the practice of his profession. He has taken a deep interest in agriculture. He introduced the North Devon cattle, and in 1848 was Treasurer of the County Agricultural Society. He has been often elected to town offices, and in 1839 and 1840 was elected Treasurer of Sullivan County. ^{m. 1835 Feb. Sophia S. Winter} His daughters are graduates from Meriden ^{Sophia} ^{Wm. W. Winter in Fennell & Spencer's Class, graduated from Meriden, Conn. 1878} ^{Wm. H. Marsh, a brother, is a merchant in Boston.}

MELENDY.

EBENEZER and JOHN MELENDY, twins, came to this town from Worcester County, Mass., and were among the earliest settlers.

WILLIAM E. MELENDY, son of Sibley, a soldier in the war of 1812, was born Jan. 2, 1819. In 1845, he removed to Springfield, N. H., where he shared in a good degree the confidence of the community. He was Postmaster six years, Selectman two, and Representative two. Since 1853, he has been engaged in mercantile business. In 1863, he moved to West Andover, N. H., where he now resides. He married Martha P., daughter of Ziba Cooper.

ELBRIDGE and ALONZO MELENDY, sons of John, after struggling against all the embarrassments of early poverty, settled at Cohoes, N. Y., where they have met with a deserved success. Alonzo carried off the medals at school, and fitted himself for a successful teacher—studying by the light of pine knots gathered in the woods. ^{Elbridge & Alonzo, 1870}

MERRILL.

SAMUEL MERRILL, the father of the Merrills, married Fannie Bancroft, a great-aunt of George Bancroft the historian. She is still living. He died in 1827, leaving a large family of small children.

JOSHUA B. and SHERBURN MERRILL, sons of Samuel Merrill, spent the earlier part of their lives at the homestead, east of Spectacle Pond. To their early struggles with poverty they owe much of those resolute wills, which have enabled them to make after-progress in the business world. The former has for several years represented Barnstead in the Legislature, and the latter has represented Colebrook.

SENECA MERRILL, a younger brother, connected with Sherburn in business at Colebrook, where they have become wealthy, has held several county offices. One of the daughters married William B. Leavitt, a scientific man and astronomer at Grantham.

METCALF.

SAMUEL METCALF, after serving in the French and Revolutionary armies for seven years, came to this town from Franklin, Mass., and settled at Brighton, and was the progenitor of the Metcalf family in town.

DEA. ABEL METCALF, his oldest son, settled in Newport, and was the father of REV. KENDRICK METCALF, Episcopal clergyman at Geneva, N. Y., and Professor in the Geneva College,—of SILAS, a successful farmer and man of political note at Newport, and of THERON, a popular merchant in Boston.

CAPT. OBED METCALF, his second son, was active in town and church affairs, was father of STEPHEN, a prominent farmer at Haverhill, N. H., ^{d. Nov. 2, 1844 - age 80.} and grandfather of HENRY H., a lawyer, and CARLOS G., physician, sons of Joseph.

SAMUEL METCALF, his third son, was father to ALEXANDER, a wealthy farmer and justice at Northfield, Min., who married Anna, eldest daughter of Col. Nathaniel Wheeler, and grandfather of SAMUEL METCALF WHEELER, a distinguished lawyer at Dover, N. H.

MORSE.

SAMUEL MORSE, Esq., a native of Dublin, N. H., graduated at Dartmouth College in 1811, and studied law with Hon. Geo. B. Upham, of Claremont. He came to Croydon in 1815, and opened the first and only law office ever in town. He was Representative for the year 1834, and a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1850. He died Jan 1, 1865, aged 81 years.

NELSON.

JOHN NELSON, one of the early settlers, lived on the turnpike north of Four Corners; was intrusted to some extent with the management of town affairs, and has many descendants.

NEWTON.

PHINEAS NEWTON, one of the early settlers, lived in the famous "Old Stone House," on the glebe lot south of the original Whitman Jacobs place.

NEWELL.

JEREMIAH NEWELL, one of the early comers to Croydon, settled at Ryder Corner, and was an extensive farmer, tidy, energetic and proud. His "*Hack*," the first in town, was an object of great interest to the "little folks." He was father to JEREMIAH, who was for a long time a popular sheriff at Newport,—of PARKER N., merchant at Newport, and now at Princeton, Ill.,—of BENJAMIN, merchant and speculator, also at Princeton, Ill., and grandfather of THANKFUL M., daughter of David, a lady of uncommon energy and business talent—late wife of Shepherd L. Bowers, Esq., of Newport.

PARTRIDGE.

ELISHA and SIMEON PARTRIDGE came from Franklin, Mass., and were among the first settlers. The former married a sister of Timothy Winter and settled on Winter Hill. The latter settled on the B. Brown place, near the Flat. They were valuable citizens, and occupied honorable positions in town.

ELISHA PARTRIDGE, son of Elisha, is a farmer, and has much musical talent.

PAUL.

LUKE PAUL, son of Daniel, came into Croydon at twenty-two years of age, and married Sally Cooper, daughter of Samuel Cooper, and settled on the "old Gibson farm," on Baltimore Hill, and was an enterprising and prosperous farmer.

PERKINS.

MARSHALL PERKINS, son of James Perkins—who came to Croydon from Leominster, Mass., in 1815, and built the grist-mill, saw-mill and carding-machine at the Flat, and who was for many years a successful business man—was born May 13, 1823. He studied medicine and graduated at Cambridge Medical College, in 1850, at the head of his class. He soon after settled at Marlow, N. H., where he now resides, and is doing a successful business. He married a daughter of Amos Fisk, Esq., the leading merchant of Marlow. He was for three years during the war Assistant Surgeon in the 14th Regt. N. H. Vols.

PUTNAM.

DAVID PUTNAM and CALEB PUTNAM came to this town from Sutton, Mass., among the early emigrants, and settled on the south-east slope of the Pinnacle, in a locality long known as the "Salt Box." They were noted for a hardy constitution and great industry.

SOLOMON PUTNAM, son of Dea. David Putnam, and PETER PUTNAM, son of Caleb Putnam, though not much in office, were among our most worthy farmers. *Stillman's son of John's, son of Solomon d. 1829/31 - a 52*

CHARLES PUTNAM, son of Solomon, remained on the homestead, and is an extensive and thriving farmer.

JOHN PUTNAM, son of Dea. David Putnam, one of the early settlers of the town, and a Revolutionary soldier, was born November 11, 1797. He is one of the most intelligent, respected, industrious and energetic farmers in town. He

has reared a large and one of the most thoroughly educated families in Croydon. He has always remained at the old homestead ; he has been Selectman and Representative.

JOHN WOODBURY PUTNAM, eldest son of John Putnam, Esq., born April 6, 1819, is a man of excellent judgment and decision of character. After operating as a farmer in his native town, and going to the recent war, where he held the position of Captain, he has sold out and removed to New York. He is located on the Hudson River about sixty miles above the city of New York, on a large farm belonging to his brother-in-law, Timothy C. Eastman.

He died Feb. 5, 1897.

JAMES W. PUTNAM, son of John Putnam, Esq., was born December 15, 1822. He pursued his preparatory studies at Kimball Union Academy, and graduated at Norwich University. He received his theological training at Clinton Seminary, Clinton, N. Y., then under the direction of Rev. T. J. Sawyer. In 1848 he received the fellowship of the Universalist denomination at the New Hampshire State Convention, and in 1849 was ordained as pastor of the first Universalist society of Danvers, Mass., where after a life of much usefulness and ever-increasing popularity, he died November 3, 1864. He had charge of the public schools in his town for many years, and was several times elected a member of the Massachusetts Legislature, in which body he took a very prominent and honorable stand.

FRANKLIN PUTNAM, son of John Putnam, Esq., was born September 8, 1833; graduated at Bowdoin College in 1859; studied law with Brown & Sewell, at Bath, Me., and commenced the practice of his profession at Kansas City, Mo., in 1861, where he died November 3, 1865.

NATHANIEL FRENCH PUTNAM, fourth son of John Putnam, Esq., was born February 2, 1839. He graduated at Bowdoin College in 1863; entered the General Theological Seminary, New York, November, 1863, graduated June, 1866; was ordained Deacon in the Protestant Episcopal Church at Claremont, May 27, 1866, by the Rt. Rev. Carlton Chase, D. D., Bishop of New Hampshire, and took charge of St. John's Church, Poultney, Vt., July 1, 1866.

GEORGE FREDERICK PUTNAM, youngest son of John Putnam, Esq., was born November 6, 1841; received his literary training at Norwich University, and studied law with N. B. Felton, Esq., of Haverhill, N. H., and was admitted to the bar in 1866. *in 1871 of Kansas City*

ELLEN PUTNAM, youngest daughter of John Putnam, Esq., a fine scholar and successful teacher, married N. B. White, Esq., a lawyer at Omaha, Nebraska. *in N. Y. City*

AUSTIN PUTNAM, M. A., son of Samuel and Susan Gibson Putnam, and grandson of Caleb Putnam, was born March 6, 1809. After pursuing his studies in the district school and at Newport Academy, he entered Dartmouth College in 1825. At the close of his second year, circumstances led him to relinquish his plan of a full collegiate course, and he soon after commenced the study of law in the office of Hon. F. A. Tallmage and Charles F. Grim, Esqrs., of New York City, and completed it in the office of Hon. John P. and J. Newland Cushman, Esqrs., of Troy, N. Y., and at the Law School at Litchfield, Conn. He was admitted to the bar at Utica, in July, 1831. He immediately commenced practice at Troy, N. Y., with highly



J. H. Bufford & Lill, Boston.

Austin Putnam



encouraging prospects. But after spending a short time in his profession, he experienced a total change in his views on the subject of religion. At what he conceived to be the call of duty he left the profession which he had chosen, and which he loved, and commenced the study of theology, under the instruction of Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., of Troy. He was ordained at Lowville, N. Y., in 1834. After a few years of successful labor in New York City and at New Haven, he was, October 31, 1838, installed as pastor of the Congregational Church at Hamden, Conn., where he is now living. In 1843 he was married to Caroline W. Northop, daughter of Gen. Joseph A. Northop, of Lowville, N. Y. In 1844-5 he spent a year in Europe, traveling over the different countries. In 1839 he received the honorary degree of Master of Arts from Yale College. He has long been regarded as a man of rare endowments. *He is now residing at Hamden, Conn.*

PROCTOR PUTNAM, son of Hiram, and grandson of Caleb Putnam, was born July 8, 1814. From eighteen to twenty-eight years of age he followed the occupation of mason—the last four years was superintendent in building the locks on the Glens Falls Feeder Canal, and Black River Canal, N. Y. In 1842 he removed to Lake County, Illinois, and purchased the farm on which he now lives. The following brief statement of his affairs will be of interest to all those who remember the once penniless boy of Croydon: He has six hundred acres of choice land valued at sixty dollars per acre, six hundred of the finest merino sheep, seventy head of cattle, and thirty hogs, besides much other property. In 1842 he married Rosilla Sargent, of Grantham, N. H.

POWERS.

EZEKIEL POWERS, son of Lemuel and Thankful Leland Powers—a lady of uncommon intellect—was born in Grafton, Mass., March 27, 1745; was one of the party who came to Croydon in the spring of 1766, for the purpose of surveying land and making other preparations for a settlement, and settled here the following year. He was conspicuous principally on account of his great physical strength and his *inventive genius*. Among his many other inventions, he first introduced the practice of “ridging” green-sward for the purpose of raising Indian corn,—and the “looped” sled so generally used since by the lumbermen of Croydon, and the sheet-iron pans of our sugar-makers of to-day are of his invention. He purchased some six hundred acres, covering the land of the East Village and the meadows above.

DAVID POWERS and SAMUEL POWERS, brothers of Ezekiel, were also among the earliest settlers. They were worthy citizens, and among the most popular and influential men in town, and both died of the “spotted fever” in 1813.

REV. LEMUEL POWERS, also brother of Ezekiel, was one of the early settlers of the town. He was born at Northbridge, Mass., in 1756; married Abigail Newland, and died at Stillwater, N. Y., in 1800—leaving four children. His eldest son CYRUS married Lydia Stow, and settled at Sempronius, N. Y. In 1804 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Cayuga County, and in 1806 received the appointment of Judge of the County Courts, which office he filled with much ability for twenty-five years. He died in 1841. ABIGAIL, his youngest daughter, was born in 1798. In February, 1826, she married Millard Fillmore, late President

of the United States. She is a lady highly respected for her intelligence, dignity and many Christian virtues. She is now a widow, and resides at Buffalo, N. Y.

STEPHEN POWERS, BENJAMIN POWERS and JOHN POWERS, cousins of Ezekiel, were also among the first settlers. From the foregoing have descended most of those in town who bear the name of Powers. The Powerses were the most numerous family among the first settlers, and were distinguished for giant frames, great physical strength and vigorous intellects.

EZEKIEL POWERS, son of Ezekiel and Hannah Hall Powers, was born in 1771, and was the first male child born in town. At the age of nineteen he married Susan Rice, and subsequently Lydia Lane and Lois Barden, and had twenty-one children—four sons and seventeen daughters; fifteen of the latter grew to womanhood, and were characterized by those qualities which distinguish the Powers family. Like his father he was remarkable for great physical power. At the age of eighty he weighed 265 pounds. He had a great memory, and was a lover of fun.

MAJ. ABIJAH POWERS, son of Ezekiel Powers, one of the earliest settlers of the town, was a man instinctively inclined to leisure and social enjoyments. He was a Major in the war of 1812. He was well educated, and had a ready judgment, and hence was enabled to fill the offices of Justice, Selectman and Representative with much credit to himself. He was the greatest story-teller the town ever produced, with the exception perhaps of his uncle, Abijah Hall, the father of Capt. Amasa Hall. With him, as with James

and other members of the family, in his last days his memory was remarkably clear and retentive. He could recall with the utmost vividness all the incidents of his life, and after reading a book could repeat it word for word.

ELIAS POWERS, son of the preceding, one of the Committee of Arrangements, is a man of intelligence, a respected farmer, and has many of the characteristics of his father. *d. Dec. 29, 1891, age 83 - County Commissioner 1868*

JAMES POWERS, son of Ezekiel Powers, senior, was an extensive dealer in stock and other property; was a sheriff, a ready wit, and a natural poet.

OBED POWERS, son of Col. Samuel and Chloe Cooper Powers, was born April 20, 1788. Like most boys in those early days, he received only from three to four weeks schooling each winter. At the age of twenty-two he removed to Cornish. In addition to being an active and thriving farmer, he has been extensively engaged in stone masonry—superintending in New York and Vermont, as well as his own State, some of the largest and most difficult undertakings. February 10, 1814, he was married to Cynthia Cummings; and in 1864 was celebrated their golden wedding. They had five children, all thoroughly educated at Meriden, and all successful teachers. The youngest daughter, MARION W., has a decided talent for poetry, was assistant teacher at Meriden, and is now at the head of the female department of an institution at Sydney, Ohio.

SOLOMON L. POWERS, brother of the above, after following the business of stone-mason at Baltimore and elsewhere,

finally became an extensive farmer at Gettysburg, Pa.; and during the famous battle a portion of the rebel army was stationed in his yard. His brothers, ARA and LARNARD, were successful farmers. The former died at Charlestown in 1865, leaving quite a fortune.

SAMUEL POWERS, son of Col. Samuel Powers, a merchant and practical surveyor, had much native talent. He was one of the most successful teachers; had a clear intellect and a decided military genius, which was much improved by a thorough training at Norwich University. Few are the men who have more of the elements of popularity about them, or who have been more a favorite with their townsmen. Full of promise, he died in 1828, at the early age of thirty-three.

ERASTUS B. POWERS, son of Larnard and Ruby Barton Powers, and grandson of Samuel Powers, fitted for college at Meriden; graduated at Dartmouth College, and at the Law School at Cambridge, Mass., and was admitted to the bar in 1866. As a scholar he ranked high in his classes.

MERRITT, LEMUEL and HENRY POWERS, sons of Zadock, and grandsons of Ezekiel Powers, were clergymen in Vermont.

HAVEN POWERS, son of Cyrus and Lydia Stow Powers, and grandson of Rev. Lemuel Powers, was born in 1817. After spending several years with his friends on a farm in Croydon, he studied law and settled at Milwaukie, Wis.

TIMOTHY GILMAN POWERS, son of Timothy, and grandson of Dea. Stephen Powers, is an intelligent farmer and

man of influence, residing at the East Village. Married Eliza Winter, daughter of Adolphus Winter. He has been Selectman several times, and held many other offices.

DENNIS POWERS, son of David Powers, was born May 24, 1808; graduated from Amherst College, Mass., in 1835, and from Theological Seminary at Andover, Mass., in 1838. He was ordained and settled over the Congregational church and society of East Randolph, Mass., December 5, 1838. At his own request he was dismissed from this church and people April 15, 1841. On the 29th of September, 1842, he was installed as pastor of the church and society of South Abington, Mass., and remained there until 1850, when he accepted an appointment to an office under President Fillmore, and removed to the city of Washington. He was for a time Agent, and an eloquent advocate of the Colonization Society. He is now laboring again with the people of Abington, Mass. *d. July 1884.*

ORLANDO POWERS, son of Capt. Peter Powers, and on the mother's side descended from Dea. John Cooper, was born May 5, 1810. He was educated mainly at the district school. At eighteen he was apprenticed as clerk to Hiram Smart—then only merchant of Croydon—where he remained until April, 1832, when he removed to Cornish Flat—where he now lives—and commenced trade. In 1837 he was married to Cynthia L. Smart, daughter of Joseph Smart of Croydon. He has been Town Clerk of Cornish seven years, was Representative in 1844, and County Treasurer in 1849 and 1850. He was for a long time Postmaster, and has been frequently Administrator of valuable estates. He has an active temperament, and a ready business talent, is



J. H. Bufford's Lith. Boston.

Horace Powers.

social and gentlemanly. On the breaking out of the rebellion he devoted all his means and energies to the raising of men and furnishing supplies for their families. No other one in town did so much as he for the cause. *Hed. F.*

DAVID COOPER POWERS, third son of Peter, and grandson of David Powers, was born June 30, 1822. When eight years of age he removed with his father to Cayuga County, N. Y. He received his academical education at Aurora; studied medicine with his brother-in-law, Nathaniel Leavitt, M. D., and graduated at Berkshire Medical College at Pittsfield, Mass., in 1848. He then went to California, and remained until 1850, when he returned, was married to a daughter of Samuel Ledyard, Esq., of Wayne County, and settled in the practice of his profession, at Auburn, N. Y. In 1853 he again went to California and remained two years, when he returned and removed with his family to Coldwater, Michigan, where he now resides, and is in the practice of his profession. At the breaking out of the rebellion he was appointed Surgeon of the 9th Michigan Infantry, and acted in that capacity some three years.

J. WOODWORTH POWERS, brother of Orlando, is an extensive farmer in western New York.

JACOB HAVEN POWERS, youngest son of Peter, is a thriving merchant in western New York.

Of the sisters, MARY C. married Nathaniel Leavitt, a physician, and CEMANTHA married Daniel Frye, also a physician at Deering, N. H.

DR. HORACE POWERS was the son of Urias and Lucy Powers, and was born Oct. 27, 1807. His early education

was obtained in the common schools of his native town and the Academy at Newport, after finishing which he studied medicine with Dr. J. B. McGregory, of Newport, and having attended two full courses of Lectures at Dartmouth College under the noted and lamented Dr. Muzzey, he received his diploma of M. D. at the Medical College at Woodstock, Vt., in the spring of 1832. He was married Oct. 22, 1833, to Miss Love E. Gilman, of Unity, N. H., and settled in Morristown, Vt., where he has since resided. He has one son now living, H. Henry Powers, Esq., a graduate of the University of Vermont, and at present a leading lawyer of his county, residing in his native town. Another son, George R. Powers, died in the army in Feb., 1862. *Dec. 1861*

The Dr. was a Justice of the Peace in Morristown twenty-five years in succession; was a Deputy Sheriff many years, and in 1844 and '45 High Sheriff of Lamoille County; in 1850, represented his town in the Vermont Constitutional Convention, and in 1853 and '54, represented Lamoille County in the Vermont State Senate. He has also been a Director in the Lamoille County Bank for many years; in 1865, being out of health, he retired from the most extensive and lucrative practice in his county.

URIAS POWERS, son of Urias Powers, was born May 12, 1791; graduated at Dartmouth College in 1818; pursued a theological course at Andover, Mass.; ordained in 1823; and after preaching in South Carolina and Virginia, he became connected by marriage with the family of a wealthy planter and settled at Big Lick, Va. He voluntarily emancipated his slaves. The rebellion dealt harshly with his once large fortune. He was the first native of Croydon who received a collegiate education.

JOSIAH W. POWERS, son of the late Urias Powers, was born June 19, 1799. He entered Dartmouth College, but before completing the full course, he left and entered the Theological Institution at Andover, Mass., where he graduated. After being ordained, he preached at Kingston, Mass. and at Kennebunk, Me. In 1839 he accepted an agency of the American Bible Society, and soon after reaching Ohio, the field of his labor, was called to his rest.

GERSHOM POWERS, son of the late John Powers, was born June 11, 1789. His early advantages were quite limited—denied even the advantages of a common school. His parents being too poor to furnish other means, his books were read and pondered by the uncertain light of the "*fore-stick*." A lameness in his right arm induced him to leave the farm and turn his attention to law, the study of which he commenced at Sempronius in 1810. After completing his course, he opened an office at Auburn, and was popular and successful in his practice. He was appointed Assistant Justice of the Cayuga County Court, and after three years service in that capacity was elevated to the position of County Judge. Jan. 30, 1826, he was appointed to the control of the Prison at Auburn, and under his management the "Auburn System of Prison Discipline" became famous throughout the United States and Europe, as second to none on the globe. In 1829, he was chosen Representative to Congress, and declined a re-election on account of feeble health. He died Jan. 25, 1831. He was kind to his indigent relatives, beloved by all, and died a Christian.

WILLIAM POWERS, an elder brother of the preceding, was born in 1786, and his means of education were similar to

those of his brother. He was assistant keeper of the prison at Auburn, N. Y. Having drawn a superior plan of a prison, he was employed by the government of Canada West to superintend the erection of a penitentiary at Kingston, and in May, 1835, was appointed Deputy Warden of said prison. He is now an extensive farmer in western New York.

RAWSON.

JOHN RAWSON, from whom have descended the Rawsons, settled under the mountain, near the P. Barton place.

REED.

MOSES REED, the father of the Reeds, was among the early settlers, and was a cloth dresser at the Flat.

ROWELL.

HON. CHARLES ROWELL, son of Lemuel Rowell, removed from "Ryder Corner" to Allenstown, N. H., where he died Jan. 11, 1867, aged 82 years. He was intrusted with many civil offices. He was Selectman of his town twenty-four years, Justice of the Peace about the same number of years, a Representative to the State Legislature four years, County Treasurer two years, and State Senator two years. He had been an earnest and consistent member of the Methodist E. Church for fifty-eight years.

EDMUND ROWELL, a brother of the preceding, studied medicine and settled in Merrimac County, where he died young.

FRANKLIN ROWELL, and CHRISTOPHER ROWELL, sons of David Rowell—both men of decided genius—are among the most successful artists in Boston.

EDMUND ROWELL, son of Sherburn Rowell, is a successful trader at New London, Conn.

RUMBLE.

ELISABETH RUMBLE, a spinster, was noted for her great age—a hundred years—and her many eccentricities. At the trout-brook she was the rival of the famous Isaak Walton.

RYDER.

JOTHAM RYDER came early to Croydon, and settled in the south-east corner of the town, and from him and his connections the place has always since been known as “Ryder Corner.”

ASA RYDER, son of Jotham Ryder, studied medicine with Alexander Boyd, of Newport, graduated at the medical department at Hanover, and settled at Alstead, N. H., where, after two years of practice, he died.

DANIEL RYDER, son of Jotham Ryder, was born Dec. 29, 1803. He married Sarah George, and remains under the paternal roof, at Ryder Corner. He has long been noted for the excellence of his stock and produce. He is one of the most prosperous and worthy farmers in town, and is esteemed a man of superior judgment. He was one of the Committee of Arrangements, and is the father of WILLIAM W. and DAVID E. RYDER.

ELIJAH RYDER, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Celebration, son of Jotham Ryder, Jr., is a worthy farmer, and has attained quite a celebrity as a teacher, both of schools and penmanship.

SANGER.

ISAAC, JOHN, PHINEAS, LYDIA, ELIZABETH and PHEBE SANGER came to Croydon in 1770, and were regarded as an important accession to the town. The brothers had families, the sisters were unmarried. Their descendants are characterized by a great fondness for books and the remarkable facility with which they acquire literary and scientific knowledge. Very many of the distinguished sons of Croydon are proud to trace their lineage from the Sangers. John and Phineas left town. Isaac died of the heart disease, while crossing Croydon Mountain in 1780, leaving three daughters—one of whom married Barnabas Cooper, and another William Gibson.

Lydia married John Powers, and Phebe married a Mr. Noyes. Elizabeth, or, as everybody called her, "Aunt Lizzy," remained single, and was really one of the best specimens of an *old maid* the world has ever produced. Turning instinctively away from all allurements to matrimony, she preferred to remain,

"In maiden fancy free."

She was "an angel of mercy," and "went about doing good." She seemed to be everywhere present when needed—chiding the erring, comforting the sick, helping the needy, and cheering the desponding. The memory of "that good woman" is cherished with lively interest by all the early set-

tlers of Croydon. But tradition says she had her one fault—she was a firm believer in witches. Many an urchin has feared going to bed alone, after listening to her wonderful tales of ghosts and hobgoblins. She lived to a good old age, and went to her rest with many benedictions. God bless her.

SARGENT.

ALVIN SARGENT, son of Capt. John Sargent, is a clergyman of the Baptist order, now living at Holderness, N. H. He has been several times a member of the Legislature.

JOSEPH SARGENT, a brother of the above, married Lucinda, daughter of Benj. Skinner, Esq. For a while he was engaged as high-school teacher. He studied theology, and became a Universalist clergyman—was quite talented. He was Chaplain in the army, and died in the service.

SHERMAN.

WILLIAM SHERMAN came to Croydon from Barre, Mass., in 1797, and died Feb. 19, 1855, aged 79 years, leaving a large family. He is remembered as an upright farmer. Of him it might be said, as of one of old: "Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile."

SMART.

HIRAM SMART, son of Caleb Smart, for a long time a leading man and popular merchant in town, married Harriet, daughter of Capt. William Whipple, and he subsequently removed to Nashua, N. H., where he died.

HIRAM SMART, son of the preceding, has been a Representative from Plaistow in the Legislature, a School Commissioner, and Register of Deeds for Rockingham County, and is now in the Boston Custom House.

STEWART.

GARDNER STEWART, son of John Stewart—an early settler on Winter Hill—married Sarah, daughter of James Powers. He has been a successful financier. He now resides at Plainview, Min.

STINSON.

REV. ROBERT STINSON, a Universalist clergyman of most blameless life, was connected with the society in Croydon at the time of his appointment as Chaplain of the Sixth Reg. N. H. Vols., and died much lamented, soon after his return from the army.

STOCKWELL.

DAVID STOCKWELL was born in 1748. He came from Sutton, Mass., to Croydon, in 1772. He was a farmer, served honorably in the Revolutionary war, and died July 16, 1824. All by the name of Stockwell, who have originated in Croydon, have descended from him.

STILLMAN STOCKWELL, son of Giles, and grandson of David Stockwell, removed to the West, where he has become a wealthy farmer.

STOW.

JONAH STOW, from whom have descended the Stows, married Lydia Powers, and came early to this town from Stockbridge, Mass., with his four sons, Peter, Asaph, Solomon and Jonah, and long occupied "Stow Hill," now Brighton. His eldest daughter, JUDITH, married Whipple Haven, a brother of Rev. Jacob Haven; his second, LYDIA, married Hon. Cyrus Powers, a brother of Mrs. President Fillmore, and his third daughter, PRUDENCE, married Paul Jacobs, Esq., of Croydon.

PETER STOW, a sterling farmer, married Deborah Nettleton, of Newport, and was the father of the Rev. Dr. Stow, of Boston, and Royal P. Stow, former Clerk of the U. S. House of Representatives. While in town he held many important civil and military offices.

BARON STOW, D. D., eldest son of Peter and Deborah Stow, and grandson, by his father's side, of Jonah and Lydia Stow, and by his mother's, of Jeremiah and Love Nettleton, was born in the westerly part of Croydon, June 16, 1801. In September, 1809, his parents removed to Newport, where for a few years he had the advantages of a good common school, under the tuition of such excellent teachers as Benjamin Cummings and William R. Kimball, of Cornish; Austin Corbin, William A. Chapin, Moses Chapin and Carlton Hurd, of Newport, and Samuel Blanchard, of Croydon. In December, 1818, he became a member of the Baptist Church in Newport, and soon commenced preparation for the work of the Christian ministry, pursuing classical studies, at first with the Rev.

Leland Howard, of Windsor, Vt., but mainly at the Newport Academy, defraying his expenses by teaching winter schools. The state of his health requiring a milder climate, he went, in 1822, to Washington, D. C., and joined the Columbian College, entering the Freshman Class eight months in advance. The funds for the expenses of his collegiate course were supplied in part by the generosity of others, and the remainder by giving private instruction. Among his pupils were two sons of Commodore Porter, one of whom is now Admiral David D. Porter, of the U. S. Navy. After graduating with the first honor of his class, in December, 1825, he edited for a year and a half a religious newspaper in Washington, called "The Columbian Star." In September, 1826, he married Miss Elizabeth L. Skinner, of Windsor, Vt. In the summer of 1827, he returned to New England, and on the 24th of October of the same year was ordained as pastor of the Middle St. Baptist Church, Portsmouth, N. H. After five years of service in that place, he accepted an invitation to the pastoral care of the Baldwin Place Church, Boston, and was there installed, November 15, 1832. In the spring of 1848, compelled by impaired health, he resigned that position, and, in the autumn, accepted the less onerous charge of the Rowe St. Church, in the same city, of which he is still the pastor.

In 1846, Brown University conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, and, in 1854, Harvard University repeated the honor.

At three different times in twenty-three years, he was elected Corresponding Secretary of the national organization, now styled the American Baptist Missionary Union; but, from a clear conviction that he had a vocation from God to

be a preacher and pastor, he in every instance declined the appointment. The same conviction has restrained him from listening to urgent propositions to accept positions in Colleges, either as President or Professor.

Notwithstanding imperfect health, he has performed, in thirty-nine years of ministerial life, a large amount of service, not only in his ecclesiastical relations, but in various Boards of Colleges and Benevolent Institutions. He is the author of several books and pamphlets, and has written much for the periodical press.

In 1840, and again in 1859, his people, at their own expense sent him to Europe for the benefit of his health, and for mental improvement.

During his ministry, he has preached nearly 4,500 sermons, baptized nearly 1,000 persons, married nearly 1,200 couples, officiated at more than 1,300 funerals, and made more than 21,600 parochial visits. His correspondence, for many years, has averaged 1,000 letters per annum. In forty-five years, his travels at home and abroad have exceeded more than 100,000 miles. His private journal extends through nineteen volumes of manuscript, making more than 4,000 pages. Such an amount of labor would have been impossible but for a rigid economy of time and a tenacious adherence to system.

His father, born in Grafton, Mass., June 21, 1771, died in Newport, N. H., in 1816 ; his mother, born in Killingworth, Conn., February 11, 1775, died in Potsdam, N. Y., in 1846.

- ASAPH STOW removed to Sempronius, N. Y., where he enjoyed in a good degree the confidence of the community

and was intrusted with much public business. He was one of the messengers to carry the Presidential Vote to Washington.

SWINNERTON.

BENJAMIN SWINNERTON, one of the early settlers, once quite a favorite in town, was drowned at an early age while attempting to swim across the Connecticut River in company with an Indian.

TOWN.

JOHN TOWN, son of John Town, was born Aug. 17, 1805. He was educated at Newport Academy. In June, 1840, he was appointed Deputy Secretary of State, which office he held for four successive years, often doing the duties of the Secretary. He was elected Register of Deeds for Sullivan County, in 1851, and was re-elected in 1852, 1858 and 1854. He was often elected to minor offices. He was a teacher by profession, and in it was quite successful.

6. May 8, 1813. d. 1859
 VASHTI TOWN, sister of the above, was educated at the Kimball Union Academy, and commenced teaching in her native town. She was soon called to take charge of the female department of the Norwich Institute, at Norwich, Vt., where she remained three years. She was then invited to Portsmouth, Va., and after nine years of successful labor in that place, removed to the city of Washington, where she has been mainly occupied in teaching for the last fifteen years. Her occasional contributions to the press indicate a ready pen, and a high degree of literary merit.

WAKEFIELD.

POLLY WAKEFIELD, now 95 years of age, the oldest person now living in town, is the widow of Maj. Josiah Wakefield, of Newport, and daughter of Phineas Newton, who came to Croydon in 1772, from Worcester, Mass.

AMOS WAKEFIELD, son of Amos and Chloe Cooper Wakefield, and grandson of Dea. Sherman Cooper, is a Methodist clergyman at the West.

WALKER.

MOSES and JOHN WALKER, the former living in the west part of the town, and the latter on the turnpike, were the progenitors of the Walkers.

WARD.

JOSIAH WARD came to this town from Henniker, N. H., and settled in the south-west corner of the town. He had a large family.

DAVID WARD, the eldest son of Josiah Ward, a physician, after practicing awhile in New York, and at Adrian, Mich., removed to Illinois, where he died. JOSIAH, Jr., a lawyer, after studying his profession, went first to Adrian, Mich., where he held an honorable position in his calling, but afterwards removed to Nevada, where he died in 1865. He was District Attorney. ALFRED married Randilla, daughter of Col. Samuel Powers, remains on the homestead and is a worthy and successful farmer. He was Representative in 1853 and 1854. DANIEL was born June 10, 1810. He

turned his attention to medicine; graduated at Castleton, Vt., in 1834. He married Mary Ann, daughter of Capt. Zina Goldthwait, and settled at Marseilles, Ill., where he has been highly successful in his professional and pecuniary endeavors.

WARREN.

DAVID WARREN, the head of one of the three families that came to town in 1766, was born in Grafton, Mass., in 1742. He married Prudence Whipple, sister of Capt. Moses Whipple, and also to the mother of Rev. Jacob Haven. Not long after their arrival, a most trying incident occurred: Mr. W. went away to work, the wife leaving her infant on the bed and two little ones running about the house, took her pail and went out a little way to the spring for water; in attempting to return, she lost her way, and the more she sought to regain it the more she became bewildered. Fearing she might wander away and be lost, she sat down upon a log and there remained until her husband's return at night-fall, when his loud outcry soon restored the lost, anxious, aching-hearted mother to her sacred little charge.

PRUDENCE WARREN, daughter of David, married Dea. Abel Wheeler, of Newport, and has several noted descendants.

DANIEL WARREN, son of David Warren, Jr., a Congregational clergyman, was settled at Waterbury, Vt.; died at Lowell, Vt.

WHEELER.

DEA. NATHANIEL WHEELER, son of Nathaniel Wheeler, was born in Sutton, Mass., in 1753. He married Mehitabel Haven. He came to Croydon in 1775, and died in 1840, at the age of eighty-seven years. He settled in the wilderness and cleared up what was long known as the "Wheeler farm" in the southerly part of the town, since occupied by H. Jacobs. He was an extensive and thriving farmer, and a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He was mainly instrumental in building the once flourishing Church at Northville, in Newport, and was a consistent and worthy deacon of the same for many years. He was decided in his religious views, and gave much time and money for the support of the gospel. His strict integrity, singleness of purpose, and devotion to a religious life, gave weight to his word and example.

DEA. SETH WHEELER, brother of the preceding, came to town at the same time and settled on the M. C. Bartlett farm, but subsequently removed to New York, where he died.

COL. NATHANIEL WHEELER, son of Dea. Nathaniel Wheeler, was born May 10, 1781. He married Huldah Whipple, daughter of Aaron Whipple, and granddaughter of Moses Whipple, the honored father of the town. She died in 1833, leaving seven children. He subsequently married Lucy F. Freeman, of Lebanon, whom he survived but a short time. There were no children by this marriage. His farming operations were extensive, and his farm and stock were always well cared for and in good condition. For many years he kept one of the largest and best dairies in a town of good dairies. He took an active part in military

and political affairs; and in the war of 1812 was the first man in town to volunteer as a private soldier, though holding a commission at the time. He was Representative in 1816, and Selectman for a large number of years. For half a century he was a devoted and worthy member of Masonic Fraternity. He died July 13, 1864, at Lebanon, where he had resided for a number of years. His intelligence, and clear, calm judgment, were among his most marked characteristics.

DR. GRISWOLD WHIPPLER WHEELER, eldest son of Col. Nathaniel Wheeler, was born at Croydon, Feb. 22, 1808, and died at St. Louis, Mo., June 7, 1865. He pursued his studies at Kimball Union Academy; studied medicine with Willard P. Gibson, M. D., of Newport, and graduated at the Medical Department of Dartmouth College. After spending about one year at Hopkinton and one at Covington, Ky., he settled at Perryville, the county seat of Perry County, Mo., where for twenty-five years he was extensively engaged in the practice of his profession, and was the leading physician and surgeon for a large section of country. While attending to his professional duties he found time to master the German and French languages, and gave much attention to the natural sciences, especially Chemistry, Geology and Botany, to which he was passionately devoted. His clear and logical mind, and love of study and observation, combined with his great industry, justly gave him a high position as a professional and scientific man. His attachment to country life was so strong that no solicitations could induce him to remove to the city, and he declined a professorship proffered him in the St. Louis Medical College.

He was never married. A large share of his time and earnings were devoted to deeds of benevolence. He was a patriarch in town, beloved and respected by all, and died firm in the Christian faith.

WILLIAM PLUMMER WHEELER, son of Col. Nathaniel Wheeler, was born at Croydon, July 31, 1812. He lived at home on the Wheeler place in the south part of the town until he was about thirteen years of age, when he went to reside with his uncle James Wheeler at Newport. He remained there until 1836; and, after the death of his uncle, was for a time engaged in the harness making business. He pursued his studies at the Academy in Newport, and afterwards at Kimball Union Academy, where he remained nearly three years. He left there in 1839, and commenced the study of law, which he pursued at Keene, at the Law Department of Harvard University, and in Boston. In 1842, he was admitted to practice in this State, and soon after opened an office at Keene, where he has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession. He received the degree of LL. B. at Harvard University, in 1842; and in 1850, that of A. M. at Dartmouth College. He was Solicitor of Cheshire County for ten years; and in 1851 was appointed a Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, which he declined. He has several times since been tendered a seat upon the bench of the Supreme Court of this State. In 1855, and again in 1857, he was a candidate for Congress in the third district. He was married in 1849 to Sarah D. Moulton, of Randolph, Vt. He is a Trustee of the State Reform School, and of the State Agricultural College. *He d., May 10, 1876.*

EDMUND WHEELER, son of Col. Nathaniel Wheeler, was born Aug. 25th, 1814. He was educated at Kimball Union Academy. In 1833 he commenced the harness business at Newport, with a brother; and in 1839 bought the establishment and began for himself. He carried on extensive and successful operations until 1866, when he sold out and retired from business. He took an active part in the movement to uphold the state militia prior to its abandonment before the rebellion, and was for two years a member of the staff of Gov. Williams. He was a member of the Legislature from Newport in 1851 and 1852, and in the latter year was chairman of the committee on Incorporations. He was also a member of several important special committees, and took an active part in the discussion of the leading measures before the house. In 1863 and 1864 he was candidate for County Treasurer. He was a Director in Sugar River Bank. In 1858, he erected Wheeler's Block at Newport, the effects of which may be seen, in part, in the improved style of architecture in the village since that time. In 1851 he was married to Miss S. C. Rossiter, of Claremont, who died in 1856. He was married in 1863 to Miss Augusta L. Sawyer, daughter of Joseph Sawyer, Esq., of Newport. *See also Nov. 25, 1888*

JOHN WHEELER, youngest son of Col. Nathaniel Wheeler, was born July 1, 1818. He had a clear intellect and scholarly turn of mind, but died young. Once taking a decided dislike to a dissipated, ugly Captain, on board whose ship he had embarked for his health, he ran away and spent a long time on the Island of Juan Fernandez, subsisting as he could,

And with Selkirk immortal could say,
 "I am monarch of all I survey."

LUCY P. WHEELER, youngest daughter of Col. Nathaniel Wheeler, was educated at Norwich Institute and Kimball Union Academy; married Edward Ingham, Esq., a man of superior intellect and business tact, and died at Newport in 1852.

JAMES P. WHEELER, son of Morrill, and grandson of Col. Nathaniel Wheeler, a boy of uncommon courage and daring, was for eight months with Gen. Sickles as dispatch bearer. He was for a long time an inmate of the "Libby Prison," and shared with others in the famous "black bean soup." He re-enlisted and died a prisoner at Danville, Va.

HANNAH WHEELER, eldest daughter of Dea. Nathaniel, married Nathan Nettleton and removed to Delaware, near Columbus, Ohio, and is the mother of JAMES an eloquent divine of the Methodist order, and ALBERT the able editor of "The Review," and who has recently been appointed General in the U. S. army.

MEHITABEL WHEELER, a younger sister, married Israel Peck, and is the mother of Nathaniel W. Peck, clergyman, who graduated at Middlebury College in 1843.

MAJOR SIMEON WHEELER, son of Simeon and Lucy Putnam Wheeler, and grandson of Dea. Nathaniel Wheeler, was born at Newport in August, 1815, and died at Demopolis, Alabama, in February, 1864. He graduated at Norwich University in 1840, and for some time after was engaged in teaching at the South. He pursued his legal studies at Charlottesville, Va., and practiced law with success for a number of years at Portsmouth, in the same State. He

took an active part in the political discussions of the day, and was a delegate to the General Assembly of the State. He was married to a lady of Portsmouth, who had estates in Alabama, which required his personal attention, and soon after he removed to Demopolis in that State, where he was a successful planter until the time of his death. He was generous, ardent and impulsive. With a clear intellect, active temperament, good scholarship, and decided opinions, he had great influence over those with whom he associated. His wife survives him.

LUCY MIRANDA WHEELER, daughter of James and Ruth Putnam Wheeler, and granddaughter of Dea. Nathaniel Wheeler, married Rev. Josiah Swett, an Episcopal clergyman, now residing in Burlington, Vt. *5th d. 5c. 2-28-1885 Had 10 children*

WHIPPLE.

MOSES WHIPPLE, son of Jacob Whipple, was born at Grafton, Mass., in 1733, and came to Croydon in 1766, bringing three sons, Thomas, Aaron and Moses, and one daughter, Jerusha. His was one of the first three families that came to town. Having a complete mastery of his passions, well educated, intelligent, distinguished for energy and decision of character, warm-hearted, hospitable and generous to all, he was well calculated to be—what he indeed was—a *father* to the town. It is said of him that, so great was the respect entertained for him by his townsmen, his word was law in all local matters. He was elected to more offices than any other man who has ever belonged to Croydon. He was a Captain of the militia, and chairman of the “Commit-

tee of Safety" through the Revolutionary struggle. It was often remarked of him by his contemporaries, that he was a *Washington* in the sphere in which he moved. He was a deacon for thirty years. In 1809 he removed to Charlestown, N. H., where he spent, with his eldest son, the remainder of his life. He died in 1814, aged 83 years. (See also speech of Thomas Whipple, Esq.) From him and SAMUEL WHIPPLE have descended the Whipples.

THOMAS WHIPPLE, son of Moses, married Thankful Powers, and settled at Charlestown, N. H., and raised up a large family. AARON married Matilda Cooper and settled in the south part of the town, near Coit Mountain, on the farm so long and so well occupied by his son MOSES WHIPPLE previous to his retirement to his present life of comparative leisure at the Flat. Aaron,

"In fair round belly, with good capon lined,"

relished a joke.

BENJAMIN, eleventh child of Moses Whipple, now living at Berlin, Vt., is nearly ninety years of age.

THOMAS WHIPPLE, son of Daniel Whipple, and great-grandson of Moses Whipple, an intelligent farmer and practical surveyor, has long taken a deep interest in the cause of education, and for many years has had the general charge of the schools in Charlestown, N. H., his place of residence.—He has a well-educated family, some of them graduates at Meriden. He is a correct business man; was a candidate for County Treasurer in 1856, receiving the full vote of his party.

DAVID WHIPPLE, son of Aaron, was a farmer and man of good judgment. He had an excellent memory, and retained his faculties almost unimpaired until the period of his death, at nearly eighty years of age. To him the editor is indebted for many facts relating to the fathers and mothers of the town.

David's cousin M. J. Dodge

SOLOMON M. WHIPPLE, M. D., son of David Whipple, and great-grandson of Moses Whipple, one of the first settlers and original proprietors of the town, was born July 28, 1820. By the home-lamp, and a few terms at Unity and Lebanon Academies, he prepared to enter the collegiate department of Norwich University, where he graduated in 1846. He pursued his medical studies at Dartmouth College and at Woodstock Medical School, and graduated from the latter institution in 1849. The same year in which he graduated he commenced practice at New London, N. H., where he still resides, and where he is enjoying a full tide of successful business. The occasional contributions from his pen to some of the popular medical and political journals of the day, attest to his literary merit. Jan. 4, 1851, he was united in marriage to Miss Henrietta K. Hersey, daughter of Amos K. Hersey, Esq., of Sanbornton, N. H. He d. 1875-

*Chas. Sherman Leland - M. D. Sec. for 18 years - Leland & Co. in N. H. Leland in Boston
Amos H. Hersey - N. H. in N. H.*

BARNABAS C. WHIPPLE, one of the Committee of Arrangements—the youngest son of David, and grandson of Aaron Whipple, was born in 1822. He married Sarah Whitney. He is an industrious farmer, and resides with his father at the homestead. *S. C. Whipple in 1870*

GILMAN C. WHIPPLE, son of Moses, and grandson of Aaron Whipple, was born March 18, 1837. He is a most

popular and successful merchant at Lebanon, N. H. Married in 1864, Clara, daughter of Samuel Wood, of Lebanon.

CAPT. WILLIAM WHIPPLE, son of Samuel Whipple, was an extensive farmer and the largest wool-grower in town—at times kept a thousand sheep. He married Judith, daughter of Caleb Putnam, and lived on the farm since occupied by T. G. Powers, Esq. He died Dec. 5, 1852, aged 84 years. *Lyman his son died Nov. 18, 1853 age 21 at S. Union*

WILLIAM M. WHIPPLE, son of William, was born Aug. 9, 1817. His early life was passed at the homestead and devoted to agriculture. He subsequently engaged in mercantile business. He was Representative from Croydon in 1856. He removed to Sheffield, Bureau Co., Ill. in 1857, where he has been engaged in successful trade and farming operations. He is a man of fine intellect and agreeable manners, and has been the recipient of many public honors.

LYNDA WHIPPLE, third daughter of Capt. William Whipple, married Dudley Leavitt, a successful physician at West Stockbridge, Mass., whose son Wm. Whipple Leavitt has been a Surgeon in the army and is now physician at Stockbridge.

LUCY B. WHIPPLE, the youngest daughter of William, married Wm. W. George, of Canaan, N. H., a prominent business man and sheriff, and who has been a member of the Legislature for a number of years. *son of Wm. W. George*

WINTER.

TIMOTHY WINTER came to Croydon from Northbridge, Mass., and settled near the Edward Hall place. His three sons, Ebenezer, Thaddeus and Timothy, settled on Winter Hill.

HISTORY.

CROYDON, in Sullivan County, N. H., situated on the highlands between Connecticut and Merrimac rivers, is bounded on the north by Grantham, east by Springfield and Sunapee, south by Newport, and west by Cornish. Area 26,000 acres. Distance from Concord, the capital of the State, 44 miles, northwest. Its surface is uneven. Much of its scenery is wild and picturesque. Croydon Mountain, extending across the western part of the town, the highest elevation in the county, commands an extended and beautiful prospect. The town is well watered. Besides the north branch of Sugar River, which crosses it in a southwesterly direction, dividing it into two nearly equal parts, it has several ponds, among which are Long Pond, Rocky Bound, Governor's and Spectacle. The soil is diversified, that bordering on Sugar River is rich and productive; as we rise gradually back upon the hills it produces excellent grass, wheat and potatoes, while as we ascend still higher up the mountain-sides we find only pasture-land and forests, and these are overtopped with lofty piles of granite.

CHARTER. The charter of Croydon, signed by Benning Wentworth, and countersigned by Theodore Atkinson, is dated May 31, 1763. The township was divided into seventy-one shares; of which, two were reserved as a farm for Gov. Wentworth; one, for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts; one, as a glebe for the Church of England; one, for the first minister who should settle in town; one, for the education of youth; and the remaining sixty-five were granted to the individuals whose names are annexed. Their first meeting was held at Grafton, Mass., June 17, 1763; their first meeting at Croydon, Jan. 17, 1798; and their last meeting Jan. 17, 1810.

Samuel Chase,
Ephraim Sherman,
James Wellman,
Antipas Hollan,
Enoch Marble,
Jonathan Chase,
Thomas Dana,
John Stow,
Moses Chase,
Seth Chase,
Stephen Hall,
Daniel Chase,
Ephraim Sherman, Jr.
John Temple,
Samuel Chase, Jr.
Ebenezer Waters,
Dudley Chase,
Gershom Waite,
March Chase,
Phineas Leland,
Luke Drury,
Thos. M. Clening,

Solomon Aldridge,
Daniel Chase, Jr.
Jonathan Aldridge,
James Taylor,
Joseph Whipple,
Silas Warring,
Solomon Chase,
Benjamin Wood,
Caleb Chase,
Moses Whipple,
Benjamin Leland,
Moody Chase,
Daniel Marsh,
Samuel Ayers,
Joseph Vinson,
Timothy Darling,
Jones Brown,
David Sherman,
Ebenezer Rawson,
Samuel Sherman,
James Richardson,
Daniel Putnam,

Samuel Dudley,
William Dudley,
Abraham Temple
Benjamin Morse,
James Whipple,
Benjamin Morse, Jr.
Joseph Mirriam,
John Whipple,
Willis Hall,
Benjamin Wallis,
Silas Hazeltine,
Jonathan Hall,
Richard Wibird
John Downing,
Daniel Warner,
Stephen Chase,
——Parsons,
David Temple,
Solomon Leland,
John Holland,
William Waite.

SETTLEMENT. In the spring of 1766 Moses Whipple, Seth Chase, David Warren, Ezekiel Powers and others, came to Croydon from Grafton, Mass., and made some preliminary preparations for a settlement. Soon after their return, Seth Chase, with his wife and child, started for this place. This was the first family established in town. They arrived June 10, 1766; and three days after, June 13, commenced the erection of their log cabin. On the twenty-fourth of the same month, Moses Whipple and David Warren arrived with their families. The next year Moses Leland and Ezekiel Powers came to town. In the autumn of 1768, four more families arrived. And in 1769, the tide of emigration setting this way, soon made them respectable for numbers. The first town meeting was held March 8, 1768.

Mr. Chase erected his cabin about one half mile S. W. from Spectacle Pond, on the farm now owned by Moses Barton; Mr. Whipple on the swell of land between Four Corners and East Village, on the farm of W. Smith—long known as the "Edward Hall place;" Mr. Warren on the north side of the Pinnacle, near the cemetery; Mr. Powers on the T. G. Powers farm near the East Village, and Mr. Leland in the north part of the town, on the farm of Kimball Loverin.

REVOLUTION. The sympathies of the first settlers of Croydon were early enlisted in the Revolutionary struggle. Soon after the battle of Lexington they sent Eleazer Leland and Abner Brigham to join the Provincial army; enrolled a company of twelve "minute men;" raised eight pounds to purchase a town stock of ammunition; and chose Moses Whipple, Stephen Powers, Phineas Sanger, Abner Brigham and Joseph Hall a "Committee of Safety." In 1777, nine men from Croydon joined a company of militia commanded by Capt. Solomon Chase, of Cornish, and marched to Ticonderoga. Eight men from this town joined the company of Capt. Hardy, of Hanover, and united with the forces of Gen. Stark, at Charlestown. Capt. Moses Whipple, with a company composed partly of men from Cornish, "turned out" to stop the progress of Burgoyne. Croydon maintained its interest and contributed its full share of men and means until the close of the war. The following is an imperfect list of those citizens of Croydon who served in the Revolutionary army:

Bazaleel Barton,
Benjamin Barton,
Abner Brigham,
Cornel Chase,
John Cooper, (Jr.)
Joel Cooper,
Sherman Cooper,
Ezra Cooper,
Benjamin Cutting,
Jonas Cutting,
John Druce,
Amos Dwinnell,
Enoch Emerson,
Daniel Emerson,
Timothy Fisher,
Ezra Hall,
Edward Hall, Jr.,
Amos Hagar,
Bazaleel Gleason,

James How,
Abijah Hall,
James Hall,
Joseph Hall,
Samuel R. Hall,
Eleazer Leland,
Rufus King,
Rufus Kempton,
Phineas Newton,
Stephen Powers,
Urias Powers,
David Powers,
Samuel Powers,
Caleb Putnam,
David Putnam,
Jacob Hall,
Benjamin Sherman,
Ezekiel Rooks,
Daniel Rooks,

David Stockwell,
Phineas Sanger,
John Sanger,
Isaac Sanger,
Robert Spencer,
Benjamin Swinnerton,
Benjamin Thompson,
Gershom Ward,
Aaron Warren,
Moses Warren,
Moses Whipple,
Thomas Whipple,
Aaron Whipple,
Isaac Woolson,
Nathaniel Wheeler,
Samuel Whipple,
Seth Wheeler.

WAR OF 1812. The following is an imperfect list of those sons of Croydon who served in the war of 1812 :

Major, Abijah Powers,	Tyler Walker,
Ensign, Amasa Hall,	Samuel Powers,
Nathaniel Wheeler,	Elijah Darling,
Charles Cutting,	Sibley Melendy,
Levi Winter,	Abijah Dunbar.
Isaac Cooper,	

THE REBELLION.

The following is an imperfect list of those citizens who served in the United States Army during the Rebellion :

Chaplain, Robert Stinson,
 " Anthony C. Hardy.
 Captain, John W. Putnam,
 " E. Darwin Comings.
 Lieutenant, Paine Durkee,
 " Albert Miner, wounded at Fair Oaks.
 Sergeant, Oscar D. Allen, wounded at Antietam, killed at Gettysburg.
 " Lloyd D. Forehand, wounded at Fair Oaks,
 " John Blanchard, wounded,
 " Hiram K. Darling,
 " William D. Angell, died in the service.
 Corporal, George E. Frye, killed at Chancellorsville,
 " Alvah K. Davis,
 " Henry H. Haynes,
 " Irving D. Tobie,
 " Ephraim Plimpton.
 Privates, Alonzo Allen, wounded at Fair Oaks,
 Thomas Ames, died in service,
 George Angell, Jr.,
 Sanford T. Barton, wounded at Fair Oaks,
 Henry Barton, killed in battle,
 Frederick J. Burge,
 William Bushy,
 Charles Baggatt,
 Charles L. Bryant,
 Rufus W. Clark,
 Alonzo C. Crooker,
 John Cabner,
 James P. Darling, wounded,
 Warren K. Darling,
 Walter Darling,

Privates, George S. Davis, died,
 Robert Dinsmore,
 Leroy Forehand,
 Stephen G. Ford,
 George H. Goodhue,
 Jeremiah H. Haynes,
 Charles C. Howard, wounded,
 Franklin J. Hersey, killed at Fair Oaks,
 Philip Harding, killed at 2d Bull Run battle,
 Edward Hall,
 Hiram C. Hall,
 Charles N. Harridon,
 Heman Jacobs,
 Ambrose Jerome,
 Charles K. Jackson, died,
 John A. Johnson,
 W. Wallace Kidder,
 Thomas Mack,
 Abraham Nutting,
 Elias F. Powers, died at Poolsville, Md., Feb. 17, 1863,
 Charles S. Patridge,
 Theodore H. Payne,
 Nathan Peyton,
 Isaac P. Rawson,
 George H. Ross,
 Albert F. Robbins,
 John Riley,
 Henry H. Stockwell, killed at Fair Oaks,
 John G. Stockwell, died at Harper's Ferry,
 Henry H. Squires,
 Charles L. Stockwell, mortally wounded,
 George N. Smith,
 George Tasker,
 Austin L. Whipple, died in service,
 Emille Warren, died at Andersonville, Ga.

NOTE.—A few of the above were substitutes, and not actual citizens of the town. Twenty-five of them enlisted in the early part of the war, and received but ten dollars bounty. They were all volunteers. The highest bounty paid by the town was \$100 per year. No citizen of Croydon is known to have deserted from the army during the war. Many of them re-enlisted and served two terms.

The following are a few of the many natives of Croydon who enlisted from other places during the war :

Joseph Sargent, Chaplain, died in the service.
 Ira W. Bragg, Naval Surgeon, died in the service.
 Sherman Cooper, Surgeon.
 David C. Powers, Surgeon.
 Marshall Perkins, Assistant Surgeon.
 Willard O. Hurd, Assistant Surgeon.
 Willard C. Kempton, Assistant Surgeon.
 Walter Forehand, Captain.
 Edward Dow, Lieutenant of Sharp Shooters.
 Walter P. Blanchard, Sergeant.
 Leonard Barton, mortally wounded in battle.
 Peter Barton.
 Hiram E. W. Barton.
 Edward W. Collins, Jr., wounded at 1st Bull Run battle.
 David R. Eastman.
 Marshall P. Hurd, killed at Antietam.
 Henry Humphry, died in the service.
 Orren Marsh.
 Simeon Patridge.
 Dexter Stewart.
 Stephen M. Thornton.
 John Thornton.
 George H. Thornton, died in the service.
 Horace P. Hall.

CHURCHES.

CONGREGATIONAL.—The first church in Croydon was Presbyterian. It was organized Sept 9, 1778. The following are the names of its members : Moses Whipple, Stephen Powers, Isaac Sanger, John Cooper, Joseph Hall, Jacob Leland, John Sanger, Catherine Whipple, Rachel Powers, Mary Cooper, Anna Leland, Lydia Hall, Hannah Giles and Lucy Whipple. The first meeting-house was built in 1794. It was taken down and converted into a Town Hall in 1828. The present church was erected in 1826. Rev. Jacob Haven, the first minister, was settled June 18, 1787. He was minister of the town and church until Nov. 5, 1805, when he became minister of the church only. He retired Jan. 6, 1834. Rev. Eli Taylor was installed pastor in his stead June 10, 1834 and was dismissed Dec. 27, 1837. Aurelius S. Swift was ordained May 16, 1838, and left in 1841.

FREEWILL BAPTIST.—In 1810, some thirty individuals united and formed a Freewill Baptist church, with Elijah Watson as Elder; Eli Davis and David Putnam were appointed deacons. It continued to flourish for some time. At length, it was given up and a larger portion of its members united with a then flourishing church at Northville, in Newport.

UNIVERSALIST.—In 1832, a Universalist society was formed comprising some fifty members. Their meetings were held in the town hall, until 1854, when Paul Jacobs, Esq., built them a house of worship at the Flat.

CALVINIST BAPTIST.—Many individuals of this town have connected themselves with the Calvinist Baptist society at Newport Village.

METHODIST.—Itinerant preachers of the Methodist order had frequently lectured in town and formed classes, but it was not until 1853 that a church was formed. At that time a society, comprising some thirty-six members, was organized with C. H. Lovejoy as preacher. In 1854, they erected their meeting-house at the East Village, in which their services are now held.

REVIVALS.—In 1810 there was an extensive revival in town, during which some one hundred and twenty individuals professed the Christian faith. In 1835 a protracted meeting was held, under the direction of Rev. Joseph Merrill of Acworth, and some seventy persons acknowledged a change of heart.

SECESSION.

In 1778 a number of towns on the east side of Connecticut River renounced their allegiance to New Hampshire, and formed a connection with the new State of Vermont. This led to a long and heated contention between the seceding towns and the government to which they formerly belonged. In the incipient stages of the controversy, Croydon took no part; but when, towards the close of the year, a convention of delegates assembled at Cornish, Moses Whipple, Esq., was appointed a delegate by this town. From that time until quiet was restored, the proceedings of Croydon were identified with the eccentric movements of the revolted district. In 1782, Moses Whipple, Esq., was chosen to represent this town in the Vermont Legislature. But, before his arrival at the seat of government, the Vermont Assembly, brought to their senses by a letter from General Washington, had resolved that the western bank of the Connecticut river should be the dividing line between Vermont and New Hampshire; so that Whipple and the other delegates from the eastern side of the river, on their arrival, found themselves excluded from a seat in the Assembly. This step of the Legislature tended to close the controversy. The disaffected towns returned to their allegiance, and domestic quiet was restored.

List of Representatives, from 1800 to 1866, inclusive :

1800, Benjamin Barton,	1823, Abijah Powers,	1845, Lemuel P. Cooper,
1801, Samuel Powers,	1824, Amasa Hall,	1846, Ruel Durkee,
1802, " "	1825, " "	1847, " "
1803, Benjamin Barton,	1826, Carlton Barton,	1848, Lester Blanchard,
1804, Samuel Powers,	1827, Briant Brown,	1849, " "
1805, " "	1828, " "	1850, none,
1806, " "	1829, Zina Goldthwait,	1851, Pliny Hall,
1807, " "	1830, Carlton Barton,	1852, " "
1808, " "	1831, Paul Jacobs,	1853, Alfred Ward,
1809, Peter Stow,	1832, Hiram Smart,	1854, " "
1810, James Breck,	1833, Zina Goldthwait,	1855, Freeman Crosby,
1811, " "	1834, Samuel Morse,	1856, Wm. M. Whipple,
1812, Samuel Goldthwait,	1835, Paul Jacobs,	1857, Martin A. Barton,
1813, James Breck,	1836, Alexander Barton,	1858, Freeman Crosby,
1814, " "	1837, " "	1859, no choice,
1815, Obed Metcalf,	1838, Joseph Eastman,	1860, " "
1816, Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr.,	1839, " "	1861, Paine Durkee,
1817, Stephen Eastman,	1840, John Putnam,	1862, Daniel R. Hall,
1818, " "	1841, Calvin Hall,	1863, " "
1819, " "	1842, none,	1864, Denison Humphry,
1820, Abijah Powers,	1843, Alexander Barton,	1865, " "
1821, " "	1844, Lemuel P. Cooper,	1866, Worthen Hall.
1822, Obed Metcalf,		

NOTE.—Prior to 1800, Croydon was classed with other towns in the choice of Representatives. Benjamin Barton was chosen in 1795, and Edward Hall, Jr., in 1797.

The following is an imperfect list of those who have been called to represent other towns, and who received their political training in Croydon :

Solomon Clement,	Springfield, N. H.	Moses Humphry,	Concord, N. H.
Orra C. Howard,	" "	Aaron Barton,	Piermont, "
Amasa Hall,	Grantham, "	Hiram Smart, Jr.,	Plaistow, "
Adolphus Hall,	" "	Orra Crosby,	Hardwick, Vt.
William Melendy,	Springfield, "	Luther J. Fletcher,	Lowell, Mass.
James Breck,	Newport, "	Joshua B. Merrill,	Barnstead, N. H.
John B. Stowell,	" "	Sherburne Merrill,	Colebrook, "
James Hall,	" "	Alvin Sargent,	Sanbornton, "
Zina Goldthwait,	" "	Charles Rowell,	Allenstown, "
Edmund Wheeler,	" "	John Ferrin,	Morristown, Vt.
Levi W. Barton,	" "	Harrison Ferrin,	" "
Paul J. Wheeler,	" "	Nathaniel Cooper,	Leon, N. Y.
Henry Breck,	Cornish, "	Alexander Barton,	Ludlow, Vt.
Orlando Powers,	" "	Jonas C. Kempton,	Nashua, N. H.
Horace Powers,	Morristown, Vt.	James W. Putnam,	Danvers, Mass.
John L. Marsh,	Jefferson Co., N. Y.		

The following is a list of the Selectmen of Croydon, from 1768 to 1866, inclusive :

1768.....	Moses Leland,	1771.....	Moses Whipple,
	Moses Whipple,		Stephen Powers,
	David Warren.		David Warren.
1769.....	Moses Leland,		John Cooper,
	Moses Whipple,	1772.....	Moses Whipple,
	Stephen Powers.		Stephen Powers.
	Isaac Sanger,		John Cooper,
1770.....	Moses Whipple,	1773.....	Moses Whipple,
	Stephen Powers.		Benjamin Swinnerton.

- 1774.....Moses Whipple,
John Cooper,
Stephen Powers.
 1775.....Moses Whipple,
Stephen Powers,
Phineas Sanger.
 1776.....John Cooper,
Moses Whipple,
Benjamin Swinnerton.
 1777.....Moses Whipple,
Stephen Powers,
Phineas Sanger.
 1778.....Stephen Powers,
Benjamin Swinnerton,
Joseph Hall.
 1779.....Moses Whipple,
John Cooper,
Stephen Powers.
 1780.....Moses Whipple,
John Powers,
Benjamin Powers.
 1781.....Stephen Powers,
Phineas Sanger,
David Putnam.
 1782.....John Cooper,
Moses Whipple,
Stephen Powers.
 1785.....Edward Hall,
Stephen Powers,
Phineas Sanger.
 1786.....John Cooper
Edward Hall,
Moses Whipple.
 1787.....Stephen Powers,
Benjamin Barton,
Simeon Partridge.
 1788.....Benjamin Barton,
Jesse Green,
David Putnam.
 1789.....John Cooper,
Benjamin Powers,
Ezra Cooper.
 1790.....Benjamin Barton,
Abijah Hall,
John Cooper, Jr.
 1791.....Benjamin Barton,
David Putnam,
John Cooper.
 1792.....Benjamin Barton,
David Putnam,
Samuel Powers.
 1793.....Benjamin Barton,
David Putnam,
Samuel Powers.
 1794.....Benjamin Barton,
John Cooper, Jr.,
Nathaniel Wheeler.
 1795.....Benjamin Barton,
John Cooper, Jr.,
David Putnam.
 1796.....Benjamin Barton,
Thomas Whipple,
David Putnam.
 1797.....Samuel Powers,
Simeon Partridge,
Peter Stow.
 1798.....Benjamin Barton,
John Cooper, Jr.,
Thomas Whipple.
 1799.....Benjamin Barton,
Samuel Powers,
Simeon Partridge.
 1800.....Benjamin Barton,
John Cooper, Jr.,
Samuel Powers.
 1801.....John Cooper, Jr.,
Peter Barton,
John Nelson.
 1802.....Benjamin Barton,
Peter Barton,
John Nelson.
 1803.....Samuel Powers,
Peter Stow,
Peter Barton.
 1804.....Peter Stow,
Peter Barton,
Barnabas Cooper.
 1805.....Peter Stow,
Samuel Goldthwait,
Peter Barton.
 1806.....Benjamin Barton,
John Nelson,
Stephen Eastman.
 1807.....Peter Stow,
Obed Metcalf,
Stephen Eastman.
 1808.....Peter Stow,
John Cooper,
Asaph Stow.
 1809.....John Cooper,
James Breck,
Asaph Stow.
 1810.....John Cooper,
James Breck,
Stephen Eastman.
 1811.....James Breck,
Stephen Eastman,
John Humphry.
 1812.....James Breck,
Stephen Eastman,
Abijah Powers.
 1813.....Benjamin Barton,
Stephen Eastman,
Abijah Powers.
 1814.....John Humphry,
Obed Metcalf,
Solomon Clement.
 1815.....James Breck,
Benjamin Barton,
Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr.
 1816.....Benjamin Barton,
Obed Metcalf,
Stephen Eastman.
 1817.....Stephen Eastman,
Abijah Powers,
Ezra Gustin.
 1818.....John Humphry,
Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr.,
Elisha Partridge.
 1819.....Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr.,
Edward Putnam,
Zina Goldthwait.

Physician

- Stephen Eastman,
 1820.....Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr.,
 Henry Breck.
 Nathaniel Wheeler,
 1821.....John Humphry,
 Obed Metcalf.
 Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr.,
 1822.....John Humphry,
 Obed Metcalf.
 Stephen Eastman,
 1823.....Samuel Morse,
 Edward Hall.
 Stephen Eastman,
 1824.....Abijah Powers,
 Edward Hall.
 Abijah Powers,
 1825.....Stephen Eastman,
 Carlton Barton.
 Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr.,
 1826.....Zina Goldthwait,
 David Whipple.
 Abijah Powers,
 1827.....Carlton Barton,
 Edward Hall.
 Abijah Powers,
 1828.....Carlton Barton,
 Hiram Smart.
 Carlton Barton,
 1829.....Benjamin Barton,
 John Barton.
 Hiram Smart,
 1830.....Briant Brown,
 John Barton.
 Hiram Smart,
 1831.....Carlton Barton,
 Moses Eastman.
 Carlton Barton,
 1832.....Paul Jacobs,
 Zina Goldthwait.
 Hiram Smart,
 1833.....James Hall, Jr.,
 Lemuel P. Cooper.
 Hiram Smart,
 1834.....Zina Goldthwait,
 Moses Eastman.
 Henry Breck,
 1835.....Zina Goldthwait,
 Moses Eastman.
 Carlton Barton,
 1836.....Lemuel P. Cooper,
 Calvin Hall.
 Lemuel P. Cooper,
 1837.....Calvin Hall,
 John Putnam.
 Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr.,
 1838.....John Putnam,
 Sherburne B. Rowell.
 Lemuel P. Cooper,
 1839.....Calvin Hall,
 Peter Barton.
 Calvin Hall,
 1840.....William C. Carroll,
 Sherburne B. Rowell.
 Hiram Smart,
 1841.....Ruel Durkee,
 Calvin Kempton.
- William C. Carroll,
 1842.....Ruel Durkee,
 Freeman Crosby.
 Hiram Smart,
 1843.....Lemuel P. Cooper,
 John C. Loverin.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1844.....John C. Loverin,
 Timothy G. Powers.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1845.....Timothy G. Powers,
 William Darling.
 John Putnam,
 1846.....Josiah Ide,
 Moses Haven.
 Timothy G. Powers,
 1847.....Moses Haven,
 Ariel Hall.
 Lemuel P. Cooper,
 1848.....John Putnam,
 Martin A. Barton.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1849.....Paul J. Wheeler,
 Edmund Rowell.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1850.....Dellevan D. Marsh,
 Denison Humphry.
 Martin A. Barton,
 1851.....Ruel Durkee,
 Paine Durkee.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1852.....Dellavan D. Marsh,
 Hiram C. Brown.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1853.....Hiram C. Brown,
 Lemuel P. Cooper.
 John Putnam,
 1854.....Dellavan D. Marsh,
 Caleb L. Barton.
 Daniel R. Hall,
 1855.....Otis Cooper,
 Elias Powers.
 Hiram C. Brown,
 1856.....E. Darwin Comings,
 Martin C. Bartlett.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1857.....Martin C. Bartlett,
 Welcome P. Patridge.
 E. Darwin Comings,
 1858.....Dellavan D. Marsh,
 Albert G. Barton.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1859.....Nathaniel P. Stevens,
 Hiram P. Kempton.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1860.....Nathaniel P. Stevens,
 Hiram P. Kempton.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1861.....John W. Putnam,
 Martin C. Bartlett.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1862.....Nathan Hall,
 David E. Ryder.
 Ruel Durkee,
 1863.....Nathan Hall,
 William W. Hall.

Ruel Durkee,
1864.....William W. Hall,
Daniel Ide.
Ruel Durkee,
1865.....William W. Hall,
Elias Powers.

Ruel Durkee,
1866.....Elias Powers,
Oliver C. Forehand.

The following is a list of Town Clerks, from 1768 to 1866, inclusive :

1768, Moses Whipple,	1801, Reuben Carroll,	1834, Jacob Haven,
1769, " "	1802, " "	1835, " "
1770, " "	1803, " "	1836, " "
1771, " "	1804, " "	1837, Benjamin Skinner,
1772, John Cooper,	1805, Benjamin Barton,	1838, " "
1773, " "	1806, Reuben Carroll,	1839, " "
1774, " "	1807, Jacob Haven,	1840, " "
1775, Moses Whipple,	1808, " "	1841, Daniel R. Hall,
1776, " "	1809, " "	1842, " "
1777, " "	1810, " "	1843, " "
1778, " "	1811, " "	1844, " "
1779, " "	1812, " "	1845, " "
1780, " "	1813, " "	1846, " "
1781, } No town Records.	1814, " "	1847, " "
1782, } " "	1815, Stephen Eastman,	1848, " "
1783, Stephen Powers,	1816, Jacob Haven,	1849, " "
1784, " "	1817, " "	1850, Nathan Hall,
1785, " "	1818, " "	1851, " "
1786, " "	1819, " "	1852, " "
1787, " "	1820, " "	1853, " "
1788, " "	1821, " "	1854, " "
1789, Jesse Green,	1822, " "	1855, " "
1790, " "	1823, " "	1856, " "
1791, " "	1824, " "	1857, " "
1792, " "	1825, " "	1858, " "
1793, " "	1826, " "	1859, " "
1794, " "	1827, " "	1860, " "
1795, Jacob Haven,	1828, " "	1861, Daniel R. Hall,
1796, " "	1829, " "	1862, Dellavan D. Marsh,
1797, " "	1830, " "	1863, " "
1798, Reuben Carroll,	1831, " "	1864, Nathan Hall,
1799, " "	1832, " "	1865, Dellavan D. Marsh,
1800, " "	1833, " "	1866, Alonzo Allen.

JUSTICES OF QUORUM.

Benjamin Barton, Jr.,
Lemuel P. Cooper,

John Cooper,
Daniel R. Hall,

Paul Jacobs,
Abijah Powers.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Benjamin Barton,
John Barton,
Martin A. Barton,
Solomon Clement,
Isaac Cooper,
Otis Cooper,
John Cragin,
Ruel Durkee,
Paine Durkee,
William Dodge,

Stephen Eastman,
Joseph Eastman,
Lyman Hall,
Nathan Hall,
Worthen Hall,
Henry Hurd,
Samuel Morse,
Dellavan D. Marsh,
Stephen Powers,
Elias Powers,

John W. Putnam,
Sherburne B. Rowell,
Benjamin Skinner,
Hiram Smart,
Allen Town,
Moses Whipple,
Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr.,
Paul J. Wheeler,
Wm. M. Whipple.

MILITARY.

Croydon has furnished to the militia the following Officers: Major General Nathan Emery. Colonels—Jarvis Adams, Otis Cooper, Freeman Dunbar, Daniel R. Hall, Calvin Kempton, Samuel Powers, Nathaniel Wheeler, Jr., and Moses Whipple. Majors—Abijah Powers, Peter Stow, Lemuel P. Cooper.

POPULATION.—The population of Croydon at different periods was as follows: In 1765, 143; 1790, 537; 1800, 984; 1810, 863; 1820, 1060; 1830, 1057; 1840, 956; 1850, 861; 1860, 765.

VALUATION.—1864, \$264,931.

Table showing the annual number of births in Croydon, from 1790 to 1800, inclusive:

Years.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Years.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Years.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1790	20	13	33	1794	17	17	34	1798	26	18	44
1791	15	19	34	1795	21	25	46	1799	16	16	32
1792	21	14	35	1796	26	15	41	1800	18	16	34
1793	21	12	33	1797	24	21	45				
Total,									225	186	411

REMARKS.—The first birth in Croydon occurred May 13, 1767. It was of Catherine, daughter of Moses Whipple, Esq. The second was of Joshua, son of Seth Chase, born October 29, 1767. The probable number of births, from 1790 to 1851, inclusive, is nearly twenty-five hundred, of which more than half were of males.

BILL OF MORTALITY FOR CROYDON.

The following table exhibits the annual number of deaths, commencing January 1, 1790, and ending January 1, 1867. Average deaths one to seventy-five.

Yrs.	Child'n.	Adults.	Total.	Yrs.	Child'n.	Adults.	Total.	Yrs.	Child'n.	Adults.	Total.
1790	7	1	8	1816	9	3	12	1842	1	6	7
1791	4	2	6	1817	4	4	8	1843	1	11	12
1792	4	2	6	1818	5	4	9	1844	0	2	2
1793	3	6	9	1819	13	6	19	1845	1	4	5
1794	10	1	11	1820	10	6	16	1846	5	8	13
1795	23	1	24	1821	6	4	10	1847	7	10	17
1796	11	3	14	1822	10	12	22	1848	6	8	14
1797	4	4	8	1823	4	3	7	1849	7	7	14
1798	8	1	9	1824	2	8	10	1850	1	11	12
1799	2	6	8	1825	7	9	16	1851	1	6	7
1800	6	1	7	1826	8	8	16	1852	1	6	7
1801	4	3	7	1827	17	4	21	1853	2	6	8
1802	5	5	10	1828	2	7	9	1854	5	12	17
1803	14	5	19	1829	4	7	11	1855	1	12	13
1804	10	4	14	1830	5	2	7	1856	5	7	12
1805	6	5	11	1831	4	15	19	1857	0	7	7
1806	14	6	20	1832	19	9	28	1858	15	9	24
1807	11	6	17	1833	2	10	12	1859	3	13	16
1808	12	5	17	1834	10	8	18	1860	2	6	8
1809	4	5	9	1835	4	9	13	1861	3	7	10
1810	7	3	10	1836	4	5	9	1862	0	12	12
1811	5	5	10	1837	3	7	10	1863	4	12	16
1812	6	4	10	1838	8	7	15	1864	0	11	11
1813	12	18	30	1839	5	10	15	1865	3	14	17
1814	3	2	5	1840	16	12	28	1866	2	3	5
1815	5	6	11	1841	4	12	16				
								Total,	461	511	972

LONGEVITY.—An incomplete list of the names of those who have attained to ninety years and over:

Widow Marsh,	90	Widow Giles,	94	Thomas Blanchard,	98
Mrs. Benjamin Cutting,	90	Samuel Marsh,	94	Widow Rumble,	100
Widow Clement,	93	Widow A. Stockwell,	95	Samuel Goldthwait,	93
Mrs. Jotham Ryder,	94	Capt. Nathan Clark,	90	Lydia Leland Powers,	92
Samuel Metcalf,	93				

EDUCATION.—Early, the wife of Moses Whipple, an intelligent and worthy lady, called the children of the first settlers to her house, and for years taught them without charge. The first school-house, a small structure twenty feet square, was built in 1772, and eight pounds was raised for purposes of education. The second district was formed in 1780, and one hundred and fifty dollars assessed for school purposes. From the beginning, Croydon has paid due attention to mental culture.

LIBRARY.—The “Croydon Social Library” was established in 1806. It contained many standard works of great merit. They were mainly selected by the Rev. Jacob Haven, who was, for a long time, librarian. This library has had a decided influence in moulding the character of the young men of the town. The inhabitants of Croydon have been a reading people.

CASUALTIES.—In 1770, Caleb, son of Seth Chase, the first settler in town, wandered into the forest and was lost. The mother, rendered frantic by the loss of her son, had she not been prevented, would have rushed into the trackless forest and been lost. On the morrow all the inhabitants turned out and searched the woods through and through, but no trace of the darling boy could ever be found.

Isaac Sanger and one of the other early settlers of the town, perished while attempting to cross Croydon Mountain.

Alexander Metcalf, son of Alexander Metcalf, senior, was killed by the falling of a tree. He was to have been married the next day to a lady in Franklin.

Abijah Hall was drowned at the “Glidden Bridge” in 1812. A son of Thomas Whipple and a son of Giles Stockwell, senior, were drowned in Spectacle Pond.

On the 19th of April, 1828, the dwelling of Mr. Charles Carroll was consumed by fire and two children perished in the flames.

Dr. Reuben Carroll was thrown from a gig, in 1840, while going down the hill between Four Corners and the East Village, and killed.

Son of Nathaniel W. Brown was killed near the Bridge at the East Village, in 1863, by the horse stumbling and falling upon him.

In 1846, wife of Paul J. Wheeler met a terrible death by burning—her clothes taking fire as she stood warming herself before the stove.

Mr. Cummings, an old gentleman, went out from the Flat towards Coit Mountain, and the next day was found dead.

A son of Simeon Ames fell from a load of hay upon the handle of a pitchfork which penetrated his body, from which accident he soon after died a most painful death.

Son of Ira Bragg fell from the cart-tongue while riding, and the wheel running over him killed him instantly. Another son was supposed to be murdered. He went West with money to buy a farm, a man went out with him to show him his land, and neither of them ever returned.

Ziba, son of John Cooper, was killed by the kick of a horse which he was driving to tread out clover seed.

A daughter of Foster Hall fell into the river, at the East Village, and was drowned.

A child of Rev. Jacob Haven was scalded to death by falling backwards into a pail of hot water.

Asa Kelsey, residing in the south-east corner of the town, fell from a building and was killed.

A son of Leonard N. Kempton was drowned in the mill-pond at the Flat.

Son of John Melendy was killed by the falling of the stone chimney of his father's dwelling.

A daughter of Robert Osburn, in the north-east corner of the town, fell into a brook, was carried under the causeway and drowned.

A son of James Perkins was drowned by falling into the brook near his father's dwelling at the Flat.

A son of Ezekiel Powers was caught between two logs, while peeling bark, and crushed to death.

Willard, son of Urias Powers, fell from the "Glidden Bridge" while on his way from school and was drowned.

A son of Jotham Ryder was killed by a cart-body blowing over and falling upon him.

Wife of David Rowell killed by lightning. Her infant sleeping on her arm escaped uninjured and lived to manhood.

Joseph Smart went out to catch his horse one Sabbath morning, was soon after found dead.

Griswold, son of Aaron Whipple, killed by running under an axe which was thrown from the frame of the house, at the raising.

In 1861, Edwin, son of Moses Whipple, while returning from the Post-office, at the Flat, one dark, rainy night, the string-piece being jarred in towards the middle of the bridge, walked off and met a sad death amid the rocks and angry waves below.

EPIDEMICS.—In 1795, the "Canker Rash" prevailed to an alarming extent among the children. Of twenty-four deaths that year, twenty were under fourteen years of age. In 1813, the "Spotted Fever" made its appearance in a most malignant form, defying all remedies and cutting down the strong men almost without warning. Of thirty deaths in town that year, eighteen were from that disease.

FOUR CORNERS.—Being in the center of the town and on the Croydon Turnpike the great thoroughfare, and having a church, tavern, store, and offices and shops, the Four Corners was once the center of trade; but railroads diverting the long travel, and the want of water power, has caused its decline.

A WOLF STORY.—Benj. Cutting, a poor man, away after provisions, was detained over night and the next day. The wife and children were nearly famished, with nothing in the house to eat. She waited until the shades of evening approached, and still he came not. She then went down to the nearest neighbors to beg something that should keep them from starvation. She had hardly reached the house when she heard the wolves, and thought of her two little ones at home. She started, and impelled by all the ardor of a mother's love flew towards home. A pack of hungry wolves were after her. She was barely able to reach the door, rush in and slam it in the face of her enemy. She secured the door. They mounted the roof, which was covered with bark. There was no chimney, and she expected every moment they would come down through the open space through which the smoke escaped. She caught the poker and stirred the fire with such violence as to fill the space with sparks and flames. The terrible howling and biting of the wolves made the night hideous. When one of them showed his teeth through an open space in the roof, she would greet it with the burning poker. If they grew desperate she would throw on the contents of her straw bed and thus increase the flames. The contest was kept up until the straw and wood were nearly exhausted, when the wolves, despairing of success, beat up a retreat and left our heroine mistress of the field.

Amos Hagar, a man of great physical strength, once going through the woods on the east part of the Wheeler farm, met a bear and threw a hemlock knot at it with such violence as to knock it over and enable him to capture it.

ANECDOTE.—In April, 1766, the party which came to Croydon for the purpose of laying out land, discovered, soon after crossing Sugar River, in Claremont, that the plan of the town had been left behind. As the river, swollen by rain and melted snow, was unfordable, and as the impetuous current had already borne their temporary raft beyond their reach, they hardly knew what course to take. At length, Ezekiel Powers crossed and re-crossed the river by swimming, bringing the parchment between his teeth. For this feat the company paid him a pistareen.

PEAR TREE.—A pear tree, brought to town by Dea. Nathaniel Wheeler ninety-one years ago, now over one hundred years old, is still alive and in a good bearing condition.

BEAR STORY.—A bear once took a hog from a yard near what is known as the Peter Barton place. The neighbors gave chase, but they were a mile away before they were overtaken. The hog was so lacerated it was necessary to kill it. When dressed its weight was found to be two hundred pounds. This feat exhibits the strength of the bear.

DAIRIES.—Croydon Dairies have long ranked among the finest in market.

NEGROES.—Early in the history of the town a colony of negroes planted themselves on Coit Mountain and its eastern vicinity. Among them were Salem Colby, Robert Nott and Scipio Page. They have long since disappeared.

